Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

Alabama.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
ADVERTISER

APR 10 1934

SLUM CLEARANCE IN MONTGOMERY

Montgomerians have been especially interested in the proposed Federal Government Housing project for this city. The special committees appointed to work with officials in Washington have shown the willingness of the people here to cooperate in mass housing experimentation

The local committees have been quick to catch the spirit behind the mass housing project. Their members have lost no time in which to make careful surveys of the great need for slum clearance work in Montgomery.

It is the understanding of The Advertiser that Washington is seriously considering the location of housing projects in this city or another Alabama city.

This paper should like to call the attention of those who shall decide where to place the housing projects, that Montgomery is an ideal city for such an experiment.

In the first place there is a great need for the clearance of Negro slum areas. It would be impossible for private owners to make the improvements which the Federal Government could make in improving the living conditions of the Negro slum sections here.

Montgomery has not received nearly as much Federal aid as have many other Southern cities. This particular form of Federal aid would be greatly beneficial to the people living here.

As The Advertiser understands it, the two United States Senators from Alabama and the Congressman from this district have the power to make special recommendations to a Cabinet committee which would assure Montgomery of the Federal Housing project.

The Advertiser, speaking for the people of Montgomery, asks that the two Senators from Alabama and the Congressman from this district give the Montgomery Federal Housing project careful attention and consideration.

Birmingham, Ala., News
May 20, 1934

NURSERY SCHOOLS TRAIN CHILDREN IN HEALTHFUL WAYS

Underprivileged Tots Get Activities Tending To Their Development

Three nursery schools for underpriviliged children have been established in Jefferson County by the Alabama Relief Administration, the agency through which is dispensed the funds provided by the federal government for adult and nursery education in the state.

The Bessemer school system has two of these nursery schools, one white and one Negro, and the Jefferson County school system has one for Negro children, the last located near Woodward. In a majority of instances mothers of these children work, and the nursery school provides a safe place to leave the tots while they are away from home.

Only children of pre-school age are accepted at the nurseries, J. E. Bryan, superintendent of Bessemer schools, explained, and only activities suitable to their ages are given. The activities are for the most part recreational, designed to develop muscular and motor control, and mental and physical alertness of the child. No subjects taught in school are given.

Taught Cleanliness, Health

Here, too, these children, whose home conditions are apt to be unfavorable for such development, are taught habits of cleanliness and health. Every morning each child is examined to make certain that it has no contagious disease and is not otherwise ill enough to require being kept in bed. In their classroom the youngsters have their own locker space, where each child keeps its own towel and its own toothbrush. Every morning they are required to brush their teeth.

Daily about 10 a.m. the children are given some light refreshment, such as orange juice or milk, and have a short rest period. Then they play until the lunch hour, when they are given their midday meal. Washing their hands before meal time is made a ceremony. After that they have a two-hour nap period, and Mrs. M. B. Gaillard at the Bessemer white nursery said it is surprising how many are ready for this daily nap. Another play period and the children are taken to their homes about 3 p.m.

Equipment For Play

The government provides funds for a maid, nurse, janitor and nutritionist where necessary, two teachers for each group of 20 or 25, and for the classroom supplies. These supplies include the towels, linens, desks and cots. But each of the classrooms is also supplied with toys, picture books, crayons and drawing paper for indoor play, and with playground apparatus that has been acquired either as gifts or from volunteer labor. The playground equipment includes swinging bars, climbing ladders, sand boxes, slides and swings.

Under the guidance of trained instructors, the children learn to play harmoniously and cooperatively. Being normal children, occasionally one will have a crying spell. If nothing seems the matter with it, the child is permitted its little bawl. Usually it stops as suddenly as it began, rubs the tears from its eyes, and goes back to play, apparently relieved and happy.

Slum Clearance Survey Ordered

Advertiser
5-19-34

Housing Corporation Field Man Due Next Week To Go Over Plans Here

Montgomery, Ala.

Eugene Klaber, field representative of the Public Works Emergency Housing Corporation, will come to Montgomery the latter part of next week to make further inquiries into the corporation's plans to establish two low-cost housing projects, one for white families and the other for negroes. Members of the local housing committee said Mr. Klaber would probably spend about a week in the city. He is expected to arrive Saturday or Sunday.

Reports from Washington yesterday were that Mr. Klaber will also visit Birmingham, Mobile and the Muscle Shoals area with a view to making studies of housing projects. Birmingham, it is understood, is endeavoring to get two housing projects; Mobile at least one and the Muscle Shoals district, probably at Florence, one.

Moreland Smith, architect, who is assisting Carl Cooper in the plans for Montgomery's units, is expected to return today from Washington where he has been in conference with authorities of the Emergency Housing Corporation.

Announcement was made early in the month that Montgomery had been allocated $600,000 for two projects. This city is said to have been one of the first in the South to make application for slum clearance funds.

Several sites are being considered by the local committee, but no deals for land can be consummated until further investigations have been made by the Government Housing Corporation.

SOCIAL WORKERS TO HOLD MEETING

Welfare Leaders From Entire Nation To Be At Montgomery

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 22—Mrs. Jessie W. Jones, of Birmingham, president of the Alabama Conference of Social Work, announced here Monday that the annual meeting of the organization would be held in Montgomery June 3, 4 and 5, and that several of the most outstanding social workers of the country would attend. The first session of the conference will be held on the night of June 3, with Mrs. A. M. Tunstall presiding. The business sessions will be held on the Masonic Temple with convention headquarters at the Gay-Teague Hotel.

Among the prominent out-of-state visitors who will attend the meeting and participate in the activities are the Rev. John O'Grady, of Washington, director of the National Conference of Catholic Charities; Miss Marietta Stevenson of Chicago, assistant director, American Public Welfare Association; Dr. George Preston, of Baltimore, state commissioner of mental hygiene; Dr. Walter N. Stone, of Nashville, author, lecturer and adviser in boys' work; Aubrey Williams, Washington, assistant federal emergency relief administrator; James B. Williams, Jacksonville, Fla., district representative, National Recreational Association, and Mrs. Winifred Hathaway, of New York, associate director, National Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

A large number of Alabamians interested in social welfare work are expected to be present.

Arrangements have been made for the Negro welfare workers to hold sessions, at which prominent members of that race will deliver addresses and participate in the work.

BOARD DEFENDS RELIEF POLICIES

Post
5-11-34
Montgomery, Ala.

Dr. Clingman Asks Critics To Submit Proof Of Welfare Abuses

Emphatic denial of charges that the county public welfare department encourages non-payment of rent was made today by the DPW board through its chairman, Dr. Charles Clingman, rector of the Church of the Advent.

Secret Session

A showdown on the charges, preferred by the Real Estate Owners' Assn., is scheduled for city hall council chamber at 2 p.m. Tuesday.

"Neither in policy nor in practice does the DPW encourage any persons under its care not to pay rent or any other obligation which they are able to pay," the board said in a formal statement.

"A number of conferences have been held with the Real Estate Owners' Assn. to make some provision for rent payments. It has been the board's desire to establish a policy of paying rent, and a great deal of thought and effort has been expended in that direction by the department since its creation last July, and previous to that by its predecessor, the Red Cross Family Service.

Lack Funds for Rent

"The sole reason for the non-payment of rent as a policy has been and now is the lack of funds.

"The department would appreciate having called to its attention instances of persons being given more groceries than they need and of negroes on relief trading groceries for gasoline and whisky."

Members of the association making the charges to Commissioners W. O. Downs and Lewey Robinson yesterday, asserted that a rent payment plan, successful elsewhere in the nation, had been presented to Miss Roberta Morgan, DPW director, without a reply.

Ask $1 Per Room

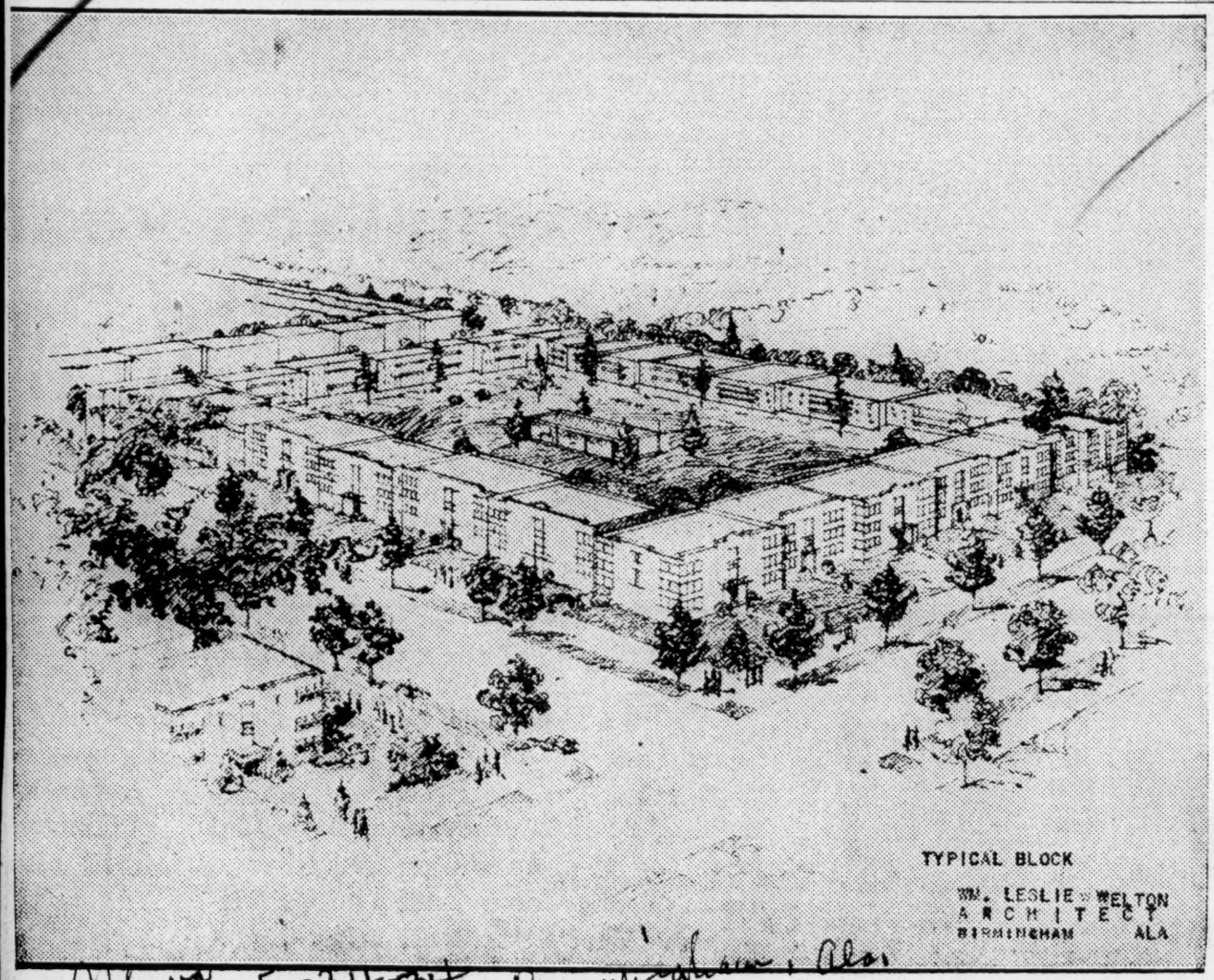
Submitted last November, the plan asked payment of $1 per room per month from persons on relief rolls.

R. L .Adams, association member, declared that only a negligible proportion of the total number of families on relief lists are paying their rent by making repairs to houses in which they live.

Payment of $1 a room per month would enable owners of the property in which persons on DPW rolls live, to pay taxes, insurance and maintenance costs, it was declared.

At the meeting Tuesday, discussion of the charges will be made by the city and county commissions, which appoint the DPW board's personnel; Retail Grocers' Assn., organized labor, the Real Estate Owners' Assn., and the DPW board

GROUP PLANS FAMILY UNITS FOR NEGROES



Above is shown the plan for buildings containing 1,600 family units for Negroes which John B. Carr and associates announce their intention of building in Birmingham if their proposition is approved by the Federal Housing Administration. Application for a loan of $2,700,000 to finance the investment was made to the Federal Housing Commission some time ago and a technical expert is expected here Wednesday to look over the situation, study the plans and make his recommendation to Washington. Under the plans proposed by the Birmingham group land now improved with old buildings is to be acquired, the buildings cleared away and new structures of the apartment type put up in their place. It is stated that the buildings will occupy 25 per cent of the land and the rest will be made into yards, gardens and playgrounds.

Birmingham, Ala., News
June 17, 1934

The Complaints Against The Welfare Department

Thoughtful citizens cannot have failed to be impressed by the statement of the board of the Department of Public Welfare concerning complaints made against it to the City Commission by representatives of the Real Estate Owners Association. The statement, issued over the signature of the Rev. Dr. Charles Clingman, chairman of the board, is quiet and reserved in tone and brief in text; but its implications are very significant.

The Real Estate Owners Association charges that the department is encouraging tenants not to pay rent, that it is being advertised that free rent is being obtained for persons on relief. The board's statement says that "neither in policy nor in practice does the Department of Public Welfare encourage any persons under its care not to pay rent or any other obligations which they are able to pay." Moreover, the board says that a number of conferences have been held with representatives of the association in an effort to make some provision for the payment of rent, that it has been the desire of the board to establish a policy of paying rent, and that a great deal of thought and effort has been devoted to that subject. "The sole reason for the non-payment of rent as a policy," the statement continues, "has been and now is the lack of funds."

Why could not this matter have remained one between the board and the association, to be worked out quietly, instead of being publicly agitated in the way it has been done? The board's avowed purpose is to establish a policy of paying rent, and the sole reason for non-payment of rent is the lack of funds. The board is not to blame if funds are lacking.

It is charged also that many persons are receiving more groceries than they need, and that Negroes on relief are trading groceries for gasoline and whisky. The board "regrets that any known instances of such occurrences have not been called to the attention of the department by persons having this knowledge." If trading of groceries for gasoline and whisky has been going on, the Department of Public Welfare should have been the first to be told about it. But apparently no one took the pains to inform the department of such occurrences. If anyone knows positively of any specific instances of the kind, why were they not reported to the proper authorities? The board could, and undoubtedly would, take steps to correct any abuses of that sort. If it is merely a matter of hearsay, it should not have been publicly charged.

Most citizens of Birmingham and Jefferson County know that the Department of Public Welfare has been doing an extraordinarily good job of relief work in a situation which is probably as difficult as any other to be found anywhere. The department deserves the sympathetic consideration and support of public opinion. To be sure, mistakes have been made and grievances have cropped up; in an undertaking of such magnitude that is inevitable. But on the whole no one can reasonably contend that the department has not performed its task well.

CHEST NEGRO AGENCY DISPLAY BEING SHOWN

Work Of Various Units Can Be Seen At Offices

Handiwork of beneficiaries of various Community Chest agencies for the negro underprivileged and afflicted is shown in the windows of the chest building, 1914 Fourth Ave., n.

Work of inmates of the Old Folks' home and equipment of the Children's Home hospital, 623 Weaver St., n., the Bethlehem House, a community house for negro children, and Camp Margaret Murray Washington, for underprivileged negro girls, is included in the display.

RENT PROBLEM CONFERENCE IS ASKED BY BOARD

Demands Of Realty Owners To Be Aired If Meet Gets Approval

Request for an interview with Thad Holt, Alabama relief administrator, to present rental demands of the Real Estate Owners' Assn., has been mailed to Montgomery, Dr. Charles Clingman, advisory board chairman of the county welfare department, announced today.

The association decided to withdraw from the projected meeting with the city and county commissions next Tuesday when they were to air their grievances. Leaders said a sub-committee would be appointed to confer with Thad Holt and the DPW committee on their demands.

Since the county commission and DPW advisory board have declined invitations to attend the meeting, only the city commission is left and indications are that the meeting will be dropped altogether.

The association asks payment of $1 per room per month for houses being used by families on DPW rolls. A number of matters, other than the rental problem, also will be discussed, Dr. Clingman said.

Relief Pledge Doubled

It was believed that the ledge of doubling Alabama's relief grant, obtained by Bibb Graves, Democratic nominee for governor, in Washington yesterday, will make possible the payment of rents to all owners of property used to house families on relief.

Commissioner Robinson asserted it was the duty of city and county officials elected by the people to hear complaints and requests of citizens, in his letter to Mr. Bishop urging attendance at the Tuesday session.

'Public Servants' Duty'

"I feel that it is vitally important that when a committee of citizens requests a conference with their public servants, the least these servants can do is to hear them," Mr. Robinson's letter said. "Such a conference was set for last Tuesday, and these citizens invited the county commission to meet with the city commission.

"The county commission refused on the grounds that they held their meetings in the courthouse. As a courtesy to the county commission, the city commission agreed to give a hearing along with the county

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

Alabama.

A Hard Task Well Done

Robert T. Lansdale, one of the right-hand men of Relief Administrator Harry Hopkins, told a recent meeting of Alabama social workers in Montgomery that the relief administrain in this state is "one of the outstanding organizations of its kind in the nation."

This was direct and deserved praise for Thad Holt, the state relief administrator, formerly director of the Alabama Industrial Development Board, with headquarters in Birmingham.

Mr. Holt has done well with a difficult job. He has eschewed politics, welcomed constructive criticism, and shown an effective combination of energy and brains.

He has not been content merely to follow orders but has originated some relief ideas which the national administration has seen fit to adopt in other states.

He has coped successfully with difficult situations connected with serving the relief needs of strikers in the North Alabama industrial area. By following the national policy without injecting his own feelings he has performed the unusual feat of retaining the good will of both parties to these disputes.

To him goes a large part of the credit for having obtained more than $2,000,000 of relief funds used in giving Alabama children a full school term this year.

Governor Miller deserves a share of the credit for having left Mr. Holt free of political restrictions, but a less able man than Mr. Holt might have had political troubles anyway.

The calendar says it has been only two years since Mr. Holt assumed his duties, but the traces left by the physical and mental exertion he has put into his task say it has been longer.

Alabama should be grateful to Thad Holt. Birmingham is proud of his record. It is a fine example of how well a governmental agency can do a given job when politics and special interests are locked out.

NEGROES TO AID CHEST APPEAL

8-22-34

Organization Chairman Appointed To Lead Group's Campaign

Negroes of the Birmingham district will, as in former years, again do their part in aiding the work of the Community Chest, and, to make their organized activities more effective, announcement is made by Jelks H. Cabaniss, chairman of the twelfth annual appeal of Birmingham's Community Chest, and Francis W. Sheppard, organization chairman, that Carol W. Hayes, principal of Lincoln School, has been appointed as the chairman and leader of the Negro division in this appeal.

"The Negro division has always been an important element of the Community Chest campaign organization," said Appeal Chairman Cabaniss in announcing the selection and acceptance of Principal Hayes of this post. "This division has the direct responsibility of approaching for the chest the many thousands of Negroes in the district, and the effective accomplishment of this task requires a leadership far beyond the ordinary. To this task the chest has this year called Prof. Carol Hayes, principal of the Lincoln School, who, like other division leaders, has already gladly undertaken the work.

"Prof. Hayes is a real leader of his people, an outstanding educator and a man of deep sympathy for the unfortunate. His acceptance of the post pressages a thorough planning for the work of this division and the prompt reaching of its quota."

Prof. Hayes, a native of Hopkinsville, Ky., came to Birmingham in 1922, and for two years was an instructor in the parental school conducted in conjunction with the Juvenile Court, where he did especially good work among the delinquent boys. Following this experience he was appointed principal of Slater School, a position he held for five years, and in 1929 was made supervisor of all the Negro schools in the city. After four years of successful work at that post, he was in 1933 appointed to the position of principal of Lincoln School, and has been reappointed to the same position for next year.

Principal Hayes has had a number of honors and degrees conferred on him for outstanding scholarship, including the degree of A. B. from Fiske University in 1922, and that of M. A. from Columbia University, New York, in 1930.

Heads of the Birmingham school system also speak highly of his work and declare him to be a man of keen appreciation of and rare sympathy for those who are underprivileged and needy, or have fallen by the wayside in the intense struggle of life.

The new head of the Negro division is now in attendance at an institute at Memphis, but will return here by Sept. 1.

80 H[illegible] In [illegible] Be Razed For Clearance Project

Demolition Starting Soon To Make Room For Model Homes

Advertiser

9-18-34

With arrival yesterday of George H. Wells, project manager for the housing division of the Public Works Administration, work preparatory to demolition of a large number of houses for construction of approximately 160 modern bungalows for negroes, will get under way at once.

Mr. Wells announced yesterday that contracts to purchase the greater part of the property had been made and that in some instances the clearing of title through condemnation proceedings would be necessary.

This formality will be executed with all possible speed, Mr. Wells said.

"We should be ready to advertise for bids for demolishing houses now located on the site within two or three weeks," he said.

Mr. Wells said that he expected actual construction work would begin late in the Fall.

The property, according to William Nicrosi, executive in charge of local arrangements prior to the arrival Mr Wells, is located near the State Teachers College campus and extends on either of Union Street where the old ball park was located and along the north side of Thurman Street for two blocks.

Approximately 80 houses will be demolished, in this area.

The general plans are now being drafted in Washington, Mr. Wells said, but the detailed plans will be drawn by Carl B. Cooper and Moreland Smith, Montgomery architects, who have been assigned the contract for the plans, Mr. Wells said.

Sizes to Vary

The size of the houses to be constructed range from one and one-half room types to four and five room homes Mr. Wells said, and from a penciled sketch drawn by Mr. Wells will be quiet a novelty in Montgomery.

The one-and-one half room house, for instance, will be of one room with an alcove for a kitchen. Each house will be equipped with sanitary facilities, including a tub or a shower bath.

Some of the five room houses will be of two stories, arranged in the form of two rooms on top of two rooms, and with a one story kitchen in the rear.

Another type will be for a two-family apartment with five rooms each. This also will be two stories high, with one stairway to be used by both families. In this house there would be no lower and upper apartment, however, since one family would be assigned two rooms and a kitchen downstairs and two rooms upstairs and the other family would occupy two rooms down stairs and two rooms and a kitchen upstairs. This house would present a figure of two rooms on top of two rooms in front and three rooms on top of three rooms in the rear.

Each house will be equipped with electric lights and running water, but will not be heated.

Will Cost $250,000

The project will embrace an expenditure of about $250,000.

A slum clearance and housing project for whites in Montgomery also is being studied, Mr. Wells said, but the plans have not as yet been developed.

As project manager for the housing division of the Public Works Administration Mr. Wells also will have charge of slum clearance projects in other cities in the State.

He has been assigned an office in room 332 new post office building as a part of the suite occupied by the State engineering staff of the Public Works Administration.

The projects under the housing division of the Public Works Administration are not to be confused, with the local activities of the Federal Housing Administration of which Haygood Paterson, of Montgomery, is chairman, in which a general house repair and modernization drive is being conducted.

Mr. Wells prior to his designation as project manager of the housing division of the PWA for Alabama was assistant to the Deputy Administrator of the Public Works Administration, and had visited Alabama on several occasions. He said he was delighted with his assignment to Montgomery.

A native of Chicago, Mr. Wells received his technical training at the University of Virginia, and for the greater part of his career has been connected with railroad construction work. He was 13 years in the construction and maintenance department of the Central of Georgia railroad and several years with the Wabash as land appraiser. In 1928 he was employed by the Cincinnati Union Terminal Company in the designing department and later was made district engineer of the construction department. He was made assistant to the Deputy Administrator of the PWA in June, 1933. He is 48 years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Wells are stopping temporarily at the Greystone Hotel. They have two daughters, ages 10 and 15.

NEGRO CHEST GROUP WILL MEET SUNDAY

Division Chairman Calls Session For Congregational Church

Post

A mass meeting of negroes interested in the Community Chest will be held at 6 p.m. Sunday at the First Congregational church, Carol W. Hayes, negro division chairman, announced today.

9-28-34

Special seats will be reserved for white persons. A number of prominent speakers are scheduled for the meeting. The division organization has just been completed, Hayes said.

MILLION-DOLLAR CORPORATION TO DIRECT RELIEF

Post

Donald Comer Named Head Of Agency To Handle Rural Program

9-25-34

A million-dollar corporation being organized to finance the rural rehabilitation program of the Alabama Relief Administration will be headed by Donald Comer, Birmingham textile manufacturer, as chairman of the board of directors, it was announced today.

Thad Holt, ARA director, will be president. The corporation will act only as fiscal agent for the various agencies in charge of relief work and will arrange financing details for the thousands of farm families who will be taken from relief rolls and put on rehabilitation projects Oct. 1.

R. K. Greene, rural rehabilitation director, will be vice president of the corporation. John H. Peach, legal adviser to Governor Miller, will be secretary and A. P. Morgan, Jr., chief accountant of the ARA, will be treasurer.

Directors will be Dr. L. N. Duncan head of Auburn extension service; H C. Ryding of Birmingham, former president of Tennessee Coal Iron and Railroad Co.; Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee institute, and Malcolm Miller, field representative of American emergency relief administration.

The corporation will make no profit and all common stock will be assigned to the federal relief administration at Washington. Equipment valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars will be assigned to the new corporation.

West End Slum Clearance Project Money Is Allocated

Allocation of funds has been made for the development of the low-cost housing project for whites in West End, and complete information required for the site on the north side of Bell Street has been furnished the housing division of the PWA in Washington, it was announced here yesterday.

The local Federal housing advisory committee has approved plans for the purchase by the Government of approximately 14 acres of land lying between Bell Street and the Alabama River, which is said to be an ideal site for the proposed cottage type low-cost houses. The project, including land and buildings, will probably cost $300,000. In some respects the cottages will be similar to those approved for the negro slum-clearance development near the State Teachers' College. Plans are to make these bungalows slightly larger and more comfortable than those in the negro project.

Members of the housing committee were enthusiastic over the West End program for sanitary and low rent cottages to serve families in Montgomery's largest industrial section. Definite steps toward acquiring the land will be taken as soon as the plans are approved in Washington.

Secretary of the Interior Ickes, who has supervision of the PWA housing division, has written all members of the Montgomery housing committee, thanking them for their "splendid services and cooperation in the development of the low-cost housing program in this city." Yesterday marked the first anniversary of the appointment of the committee by Mayor Gunter. In his letter, Secretary Ickes confirmed the appointment of the committee as members of the Federal housing advisory committee. The members are William Nicrosi, chairman; Col. W. P. Screws, R. F. Hudson, Mrs. Charles A. Thigpen, and L. D. Rouse.

Chairman Nicrosi will leave Friday for Memphis to attend the Southern conference on slum-clearance and low-rent housing, which will be held Saturday and Monday. National authorities on low-cost housing are on the program for addresses. Among the speakers will be L. W. Post, of New York City; Hugh Humphreys, regional director of the Federal Housing Administration; Prof. E. Q. Hawk, of Birmingham-Southern College, and others. Cities to be represented include Montgomery, Jacksonville, Memphis, Nashville, Birmingham, Atlanta, Knoxville, New Orleans, Dallas and others.

Moreland Smith, associate architect for the local slum-clearance projects, is in Washington this week in consultation with the housing division of the PWA. Indications are that construction on the negro units will be underway some time this Fall.

Two weeks ago, George H. Wells, engineer of the PWA, arrived in Montgomery with his family. He will have active charge of the construction work here and will remain in the city about one year.

The Transient Bureau As Seen By A Guest

By A VISITOR

Transients in Montgomery have recently been subjected to a great deal of criticism in the Public Press. The Transient Bureau, it is alleged, is being grossly misused in that persons from nearby counties have found it a convenient haven while spending week-ends, and longer, in the city—which offers more entertainment than is to be found in the Rural communities from which they come.

Negroes, especially, it is pointed out, are using the bureau and abusing its hospitality as a place where living is so much easier than the farms which are their natural environment. Even the single white men—who come from distant parts of the country and who have a legitimate right to the privileges of the Bureau—have been characterized as tramps who stay here simply because they do not want to work and would not work if jobs were offered.

Specific charges have been made that the rooming houses in which the negroes are quartered have become fire and health hazards, and are therefore inimicable to the welfare of the community at large. The writer can neither deny or affirm that charge. Nor can he speak with authority on the question of whether all of the people who register at the Bureau have a legal or moral right to accept the hospitality which it offers.

* * * *

As a lone white man who found himself unable to get work because of abnormal conditions in industry, the writer—after somewhat aimless wandering—landed in this Bureau. It is as such a man, and perhaps for others like himself, that he would speak.

This Transient Bureau is merely one of many such sociological projects established by the Federal Government for the care of men and women who for one reason or another have been cast adrift by the force of economic necessity. Becoming homeless, they can do little except wander from place to place and exist as best they might.

The Bureaus were designed to offer to each Transient an opportunity to earn a living and to maintain his self-respect until improved business conditions will allow him to re-enter his accustomed trade or profession. Temporarily, then, we the Transients, must make our home in this Community.

As a Transient—I must look upon the Transient Bureau as a separate and distinct Community within the City of Montgomery. And I must also remember that neither the Bureau, as such, nor myself can live here without friction and discontent unless accorded the cooperation and sympathy of Montgomery's citizens.

Life as a charge of one's Government is at best an unsatisfactory and unpleasant business. Worse when one hears on all sides unthinking slurs. When people who can not possibly have experienced the realities of the poverty known to those who come to the Transient Bureaus allude to its members as tramps, it is simply because they "———know not whereof they speak."

Sad experience has taught me the truth of the saying that "it take but three days to make a tramp." That is, three days without clean clothes, without facilities for bodily cleanliness, and with irregular meals—and even the most respectable of men would acquire not only the appearance of a tramp, but very likely much of the tramp's philosophy as well.

* * * *

I have heard the Transient Bureau in Montgomery spoken of as a place where almost ideal living conditions were offered all who come here, and that they were offered without any appreciable return in work. I have been in Montgomery for three weeks, the first of which I spent in the Men's Lodge at 202 Commerce Street. If any reader thinks that conditions in this Lodge are ideal in any sense, he had but to go there and see for himself.

It is possibly true that the amount of work expected from each Transient is not great. But neither are the returns.

Several hundred men are being cared for at the local Bureau. It is inevitable that many of these men are of the type who would abuse any privilege offered. More to the point is the fact that the great majority of Transients here are worthy people. Proof of this statement may be found in actual accomplishments.

The tract of land which was deeded to the State by the City is being converted into a place of beauty and interest by Transient labor. Much of the furniture used in the Lodges was created out of the raw materials by Transients.

I have been told that the number of arrests of local police has actually decreased since the opening of the Transient Bureau. This one fact alone would make the Bureau a desirable addition to the community.

What the Transient Bureau here offers is at most a method of subsistence. A method planned and budgeted to the last item and in many ways humiliating.

Only a man who has reached the very end of all private resource and personal initiative could, with any measure of self-respect, continue to live in these places, under conditions now prevalent.

NEGROES GENEROUS IN UNITED APPEAL

One Committee Reports Cash Gifts Amounting To Over $200

One committee in the negro section of the united charity and welfare drive yesterday reported cash contributions totaling $210.95 and pledges of $67.25. This group, heade by J. R. Wingfield, superintendent of the Alabama Reform School, was cited by drive officials as setting a mark that other workers and contributors could well emulate. The list of donations revealed painstaking effort and cooperation on the part of the negro workers and contributors. it was said.

The reform school led the list with a cash contribution of $62. The Antioch Baptist Church at Mt. Meigs gave $11.45 which is the largest amount contributed by any negro church thus far in the drive.

Other cash contributions were: employes of Coca-Cola Battling Company, $61; "kindness of Mrs. Bellingrath and Rosa King," $37.50; employes of Cramton Lumber Company, $10.75; J. C. Pinkston, $10; H. J. Baileu Cafe, $5; employes of Loveless Undertaking Company, $1.75; G. C. Gilder, $2; employes of Mutual Warehouse, $2; Atlas Barber Shop employes, $1.50; O. K. Dry Cleaners, D. Caffey, $1.

The pledges include: employes Atlantic Coast Line, $20.50; employes of Alabama Machinery and Supply Company. $15.50; Hormel and Company employes. $3.75; Taylor Tractor Company employes, $3; Morena and Company employes, $1.50: Abram Brothers employes, $1.50; Western of Alabama Railroad shop employes, $8: and scattered pledges, $13.50.

MRS. C. P. ORR PAID HONOR BY NEGROES

Program Given For Veteran In Welfare Work

Mrs. C. P. Orr's welfare work among negroes in the last 35 years was given recogntion in a program yesterday at Industrial High school.

Tributes were paid in talks by Dr. Henry M. Edmonds, pastor of Independent Presbyterian church; Dr. C. B. Glenn, superintendent of city schools; Louis Pizitz, department store head; Dr. J. G. Vance, director of the Crippled Children's clinic; Pauline Fletcher, representing the Negro Girls' Service league; Dr. E. H. Ballard and T. C. Windham, representing the Southside clinic for negroes. C. W. Brooks, principal of St. Mark's school for negroes, and his wife.

Flowers were presented to Mrs. Orr by the negro organizations represented at the meeting. A chorus of negro students gave a program of music.

Mrs. Orr, wife of the former British consul here, has been a leader in movements to establish schools, clinics and social service work for negroes.

Social Conditions, Improvement of—1934

Alabama

That 'Dime For Coffee' Hampers Welfare Work

Road Of Least Resistance, Either Hand-Out Or Snub, Proves Stumbling Block To Those Who Seek Solution To Transient Problem

By Clyde Cruse

The average person, when accosted by a beggar on the street, ollows one of two paths of slight resistance.

He either digs into his pocket for a nickel or a dime, or gnores the open palm and continues on his way.

And while this may make all the difference in the world to he "party of the palm," both are equally bad from the standpoint of the public welfare department.

There's a city vagrancy ordinance against begging and a juvenile court law against children asking for money in the street, either directly or under the guise of selling pencils or chewing gum. But both are hard to enforce.

For what cop is tough enough to run a guy in for asking the price of a "cup o' cawfee," or what judge has the heart to send a youngster to reform school for capitalizing on his ragged clothes and thin cheeks?

Birmingham's open season for begging is approaching, according to public welfare officials. They go by the records of past years, which show that as Community Chest plans begin to get into the papers, drifters from all over the South begin to arrive.

City Is Home To Some

Some of them call Birmingham "home," and are periodically sent here by other welfare agencies. Others remain continually on the go, spending a few months here, a few there, moving on when the possibilities seem to be exhausted. Even those apparently most seriously afflicted and entirely helpless seem able to pull up stakes and travel when the dimes change to nickels and the nickels to pennies.

These transients are cared for by a special branch of the public welfare department supported entirely by government funds. If and when they apply, they are given food, a clean place to sleep, and a few days work by which they "earn" their board and keep. The newer philosophy of public welfare does not pack them off to "home" unless they are ready to go. It has been found better to let them "get it out of their system."

The trouble is, though, that many of them do not apply for aid. They prefer to live on coffee and cigaret money they pick up from Mr. and Mrs. Window-Shopper and John and Jane Theater-Goer.

That is where the public comes in. Refusing to help these people forces them to apply to the agencies provided for that purpose. Most of them already know about it, but just in case they don't, the address is 1618 Third Ave. n., a new office known as the "intake department." In Ensley it's 2109 Ave. I, in Bessemer, 110 18th St. n., and in Woodlawn, the "city hall."

Pick Shady Spot

Not all beggars are transients, though. Some find it more profitable to remain in one place. They get used to a favorite spot which is shady in summer and protected from the wind in winter. They establish congenial relations with the policemen, and get accustomed to a certain savings bank. Then, too, there are so many more places of amusement for Sundays and holidays.

It takes but six months to establish residence;" then, if they ever are caught away from "home" without funds, the government is always ready to return them to their "friends." Other resident beggars are the semi and non-professionals—old men who resent their children caring for them; men without jobs and with children crying for bread; drink and drug addicts, and children.

As for these, another branch of the public welfare department is provided for the adults, and the juvenile court is the guardian of the children. "There is absolutely no excuse for anyone begging in Birmingham at the present time," a department head declared.

Immediate Help

One of their favorite excuses for not applying for aid is that "I've been there and they won't do anything for me." If that is true, there is a reason. If they deserve and need help they get it; if not, the same reason should also keep the public from helping them.

The department is only too glad to give reports on cases—past information if they have it, or results of an investigation they make of every new case. The number to call is 3-6211.

It is true they sometimes have to wait three and four hours. But magazines are provided for them to read, and the majority display no impatience.

Refusal to help them on the street and directing them to the proper agency would greatly facilitate the department's work, the authorities declare. And seeing that children found begging are placed in the hands of the juvenile court would bring about an investigation of the situation which makes it necessary or possible. Usually it will be found that parents are permitting and encouraging it.

The worst thing of all to do is to grant their request.

Locations Fixed For Government Housing Project

Negroes' Dwellings To Go Up On Thurman Street Under Existing Plans

Work Starts Soon

Whites' Residential Group To Rise In West End; 2 Will Cost $500,000

With the tentative selection of the site, plans have taken definite shape for starting construction in the next few weeks of the Government's low-cost housing program in Montgomery, a project which got under way some time ago. It was learned yesterday that the local housing commission and representatives of the housing division of the PWA in Washington have definitely decided upon Thurman and adjacent streets in the vicinity of the Alabama State Teachers' College as the location of the initial project for negroes.

A site in West End has been recommended for the white families, it is understood. The two projects of the cottage garden type of low-cost dwellings will mean an expenditure of approximately $500,000 for labor and material in Montgomery this Summer.

The City Commission has been assured that Montgomery contractors, labor and material, as far as possible, will be used in the slum clearance program. This city is said to be one of the first in the South to begin such a project, although many other municipalities are endeavoring to fall in line with the Government's better housing movement.

Homes For Negroes First

Plans call for approximately 300 dwelling units, equally divided between whites and negroes, for the first two Montgomery projects. Work is expected to begin on the negro units first, and announcement was made Thursday that acquisition of the land for the Thurman Street houses would begin at an early date. It is understood that several blocks will be required for the negro units. Actual construction is slated to start immediately after the property has been acquired.

Mayor Gunter and Col. W. P. Screws said they expected work would get underway within 30 days on the negro units. A representative of the housing commission in Washington was in Montgomery this week and discussed the building program with the City Commission. The commissioners assured him of their eagerness to assist the building agency in every way possible in expediting construction. The commissioners were delighted when the representative assured them local labor and material were to be used.

Dwellings of the cottage garden type, it was pointed out, originated in England and have proved popular in London and other cities. Only about 13 per cent of the land will be covered by the cottages, whereas in many instances the present coverage in dense negro quarters runs as high as 60 per cent. Each family unit will have from two to three rooms and bath, the cottages being fireproof. The Government also has provided each family with a vegetable garden in the rear of the premises. Monthly rentals will be as low as the Government can possibly make them without incurring a loss on its investment, and at the approximate levels of present rates.

Plumbing Costs Low

The cost of the plumbing for each unit of the cottage type dwellings is not expected to exceed $76. While simple in construction, the buildings, it was emphasized, will be sanitary; and being fireproof, the units will offer as a firebreak in the event of conflagrations. The revised plans call for chimneys and open fire places and a kitchen sink.

Surveys made in recent years by the Government have established, it is claimed, that in the past there have been constructed many low-cost dwellings for negroes by private capital, but none for whites. The depression is said to have created the necessity for low-cost housing for white families with extremely modest incomes.

Social workers have also discovered in recent years many white families, through necessity, living in mixed race quarters, having been attracted to such sections by low rents and simplicity of existence. The new housing program, it was pointed out, intends to correct this condition.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
August 22, 1934

NEGROES TO AID CHEST APPEAL

Organization Chairman Appointed To Lead Group's Campaign

Negroes of the Birmingham district will, as in former years, again do their part in aiding the work of the Community Chest, and, to make their organized activities more effective, announcement is made by Jelks H. Cabaniss, chairman of the twelfth annual appeal of Birmingham's Community Chest, and Francis W. Sheppard, organization chairman, that Carol W. Hayes, principal of Lincoln School, has been appointed as the chairman and leader of the Negro division in this appeal.

"The Negro division has always been an important element of the Community Chest campaign organization," said Appeal Chairman Cabaniss in announcing the selection and acceptance of Principal Hayes of this post. "This division has the direct responsibility of approaching for the chest the many thousands of Negroes in the district, and the effective accomplishment of this task requires a leadership far beyond the ordinary. To this task the chest has this year called Prof. Carol Hayes, principal of the Lincoln School, who, like other division leaders, has already gladly undertaken the work.

"Prof. Hayes is a real leader of his people, an outstanding educator and a man of deep sympathy for the unfortunate. His acceptance of the post pressages a thorough planning for the work of this division and the prompt reaching of its quota."

Prof. Hayes, a native of Hopkinsville, Ky., came to Birmingham in 1922, and for two years was an instructor in the parental school conducted in conjunction with the Juvenile Court, where he did especially good work among the delinquent boys. Following this experience he was appointed principal of Slater School, a position he held for five years, and in 1929 was made supervisor of all the Negro schools in the city. After four years of successful work at that post, he was in 1933 appointed to the position of principal of Lincoln School, and has been reappointed to the same position for next year.

Principal Hayes has had a number of honors and degrees conferred on him for outstanding scholarship, including the degree of A. B. from Fiske University in 1922, and that of M. A. from Columbia University, New York, in 1930.

Heads of the Birmingham school system also speak highly of his work and declare him to be a man of keen appreciation of and sympathy for those who are underprivileged and needy, or have fallen by the wayside in the intense struggle of life.

The new head of the Negro division is now in attendance at an institute at Memphis, but will return here by Sept. 1.

Slum Clearance Deal Is Closed

Work To Begin Oct. 1 On Negro Project As Land Deals Are Completed

"Consummation of land contracts to the Government for the site of the negro slum-clearance project near the State Teacher's College was announced yesterday. Maj. M. D. Carroll, regional construction manager of the housing division of the PWA, was in the city a few days last week to assist in closing the contracts and completing other preliminary steps in connection with the building program.

With the land acquisition completed, Governments agents and the local advisory committee expect work to begin on the negro cottages by Oct. 1. The Government, it was announced, has obtained a contract for between 300,000 and 350,000 square feet of land on Thurman and adjoining streets. The PWA cottage and garden type units will cover more than three city blocks.

Maj. Carrol approved the personnel of the advisory committee appointed early in the year by Mayor Gunter. This committee consists of William Nicrosi, chairman; Col. W. P. Screws, member of the City Commission, L. D. Rouse, Mrs. Charles Thigpen and R. F. Hudson.

A construction manager will be sent here shortly by the housing division of the PWA to supervise the erection of the negro units. He will remain in Montgomery until the contract is completed, it was announced.

Maj. Carrol, in conference Saturday, with Mayor Gunter and members of the advisory committee, said the housing project for white families would be speeded up as fast as possible. The committee has tentatively selected a site in West End for whites.

Local contractors are expected to receive the contracts for the housing projects and Montgomery labor is to be used, the advisory committee has been advised. As much of the material as possible will also be bought here.

Maj. Carrol left yesterday for Birmingham to study a PWA housing plan there. Moran McConie, land appraiser for the housing division of the Public Works Administration who has been in the city for about three weeks, returned to Washington yesterday.

Birmingham, Ala., News
August 22, 1934

NEGRO NAMED TO LEAD CHEST UNIT

Principal Of Lincoln School Will Be Chairman Of Race In Appeal

Carol W. Hayes, principal of Lincoln School, has been appointed as chairman of the Negro division of the Twelfth Annual Appeal of Birmingham's Community Chest, it was announced Wednesday by Jelks H. Cabaniss, appeal chairman, and Francis W. Sheppard, organization chairman.

In announcing the selection of Prof. Hayes to this post in the appeal organization and his acceptance of this responsibility, Appeal Chairman Cabaniss pointed out that the Negro division has always been an important element of the Community Chest campaign organization and has the direct responsibility of approaching for the chest the many thousands of Negroes in the district.

"The effective accomplishment of this task requires a leadership far beyond the ordinary," said Mr. Cabaniss. "That is why the chest officers have this year called to this task Prof. Carol Hayes, principal of the Lincoln School, who like other division leaders, has gladly undertaken the work. Prof. Hayes is a real leader of his people, an outstanding educator and a man of deep sympathy for the unfortunate."

The new head of the Negro division is now in attendance at an institute at Memphis, but will return here by Sept. 1, and begin active work in organizing his committees. He is a native of Hopkinsville, Ky., coming to Birmingham in 1922, and for two years was an instructor in the Parental School conducted in conjunction with the Juvenile Court, following which he was appointed principal of Slater School, a position he held for five years. In 1929 he was made supervisor of all Negro schools in the city. In 1933 he was appointed principal of Lincoln School and has been reappointed for next year.

Prof. Hayes holds the degree of A.B. from Fiske University and that of M.A. from Columbia University.

Transients Must Respect Curfew

Screws Says All Out Late Will Be Fingerprinted And Held For Loitering

Fingerprints will be made of all transient bureau guests caught on the streets here after the curfew hour, Col. W. P. Screws, police commissioner, warned yesterday. While the Government has not seen fit to fingerprint the transients lodging at bureaus throughout the country, Commissioner Screws said all those picked up on the streets after 10:30 p.m., would not only be fingerprinted, but would be charged with loitering or vagrancy.

Col. Screws, yesterday, notified the transient bureau that Montgomery men were "fudging" on the organization by moving in to get meals and lodging. He specifically mentioned one negro, Nathaniel Walker, who is said to have been questioned recently by the police. The investigation, Col. Screws advised transient bureau authorities, revealed that the negro lived on Hearn Street, in North Montgomery.

"There are many other instances where the privileges of the transient bureau are being abused in this city," declared Commissioner Screws. In substance, he made the same statement to transient bureau headquarters, and urged that the list of guests be purged still further. Commissioner Screws said he had been advised that the negro transients had dropped off substantially since the city inaugurated its campaign to weed out those not entitled to Government relief.

According to figures obtained by Commissioner Screws from the transient bureau, there are 105 negro men, 245 white men, 104 negro families and approximately 165 white families on the receiving end of the bureau in Montgomery. That means, he estimated, the Government is feeding about 1,350 individuals through the transient bureau.

"We certainly do not have that many transients in Montgomery," he asserted. Commissioner Screws said the advisory committee of the transient bureau was in hearty accord with the city's effort to get all local persons and others in this immediate territory eliminated from the rolls.

"While the number of transients has declined in recent weeks, the load is still too heavy," de declared. He expects the weeding out process to continue until many others have been dismissed.

"When a transient is arrested, he becomes our meat. He will be fingerprinted and also charged with loitering or vagrancy. Transients, to avoid locking horns with the police, must be in their quarters when the curfew hour rolls around at 10:30," Col. Screws said.

Reports from Atlanta are that a fingerprinting program was put into effect recently in the transient bureau there, and in two hours 55 white men had left the bureau.

Slum Clearance Project Pushed

Condemnation Is Planned To Clear Title To Land For Negroes' Dwellings

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—(AP)—The Public Works Administration said today it was ready to go ahead with a Montgomery, Ala., slum clearance project by filing condemnation proceedings.

Four blocks of slum area are to be cleared for the Montgomery development, which will be occupied by negroes. Options already cover the entire area but condemnation will be carried through to clear up all questions of title.

The project will cost around $320,000 and will provide about 160 houses ranging in size from one-and-a-half room one-story houses, to four and five-room two-story dwellings.

William Nicrosi, chairman of the local advisory committee for the low-cost rent projects for whites and negroes, explained last night that condemnation proceedings would not delay construction. All owners of property making sales to the Government for the negro project have agreed to every requirement and have asked for "friendly" condemnation proceedings to clear up the titles.

An agent of the Department of Justice is expected here in a few days to handle the legal matters for the advisory committee and Supervisor Wells, who has been assigned to the slum clearance projects.

"Disposing of the condemnation proceedings will be only a matter of form requiring less than an hour," said Chairman Nicrosi. He expects the PWA to start work on the negro project, to be located near the State Teachers' College, next month.

Additional data has been furnished PWA authorities in Washington on the project for whites in West End, Mr. Nicrosi announced. Options have been taken on 14 acres of land on the north side of Bell Street. "Splendid progress is being made on the West End slum clearance project and it looks now like work will get underway there immediately after contracts have been let for the negro houses," he said.

The West End buildings will cost fully as much if not more than the negro project, it was announced. The total cost of the combined Government construction for improving living conditions here is expected to approximate $650,000.

Athens, Ala., Democrat
October 25, 1934

Beulah Community Continued, Improved

While the TVA reservoir will cover more than 1,000 acres of the colored community organized 25 years ago by Prof. G. R Bridgeforth and his brothers Beulah community by the assistance of the TVA and friends will be shifted east of the reservoir.

The officers of the TVA have assisted in the purchase of the 400 acres on the Bee Line highway known as south half of the Horton place. Many land owners are selling to those whose homes will be flooded at prices in keeping with the TVA appraisal in that section. The settlers are rejoicing over the fact that they will not be separated.

The community is to be congratulated upon this new impetus that is coming to it after these years of struggle. It is gratifying to note the fine attitude of the white and colored neighbors in putting this project over.

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Selma, Ala. Times
October 22, 1934

Plan Nursery For Negro Children Under County Relief Progran

A nursery school for negro children of about 4 years old in families on relief is projected for Selma under the Emergency Relief program of the ARA, it was stated here Monday by P. M. Munro, superintendent of the city's Public Schools. Definite plans for opening the school at the Selma University will be developed later, Mr. Munro stated.

Training of two negro teachers Marie Allen and Ellen Reese, for work in the Selma nursery school for negro children will start Tuesday at Tuskegee where they are enrolled for special instruction in a training school.

The school program is part of the Alabama Relief Administration's program of welfare for negro families.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934.

Alabama.

HOLT REVIEWS Coal STATE RELIEF

Says $39,000,000 Bill Must Be Paid In Warning Of End To Program

9-15-34

By United Press.

MONTGOMERY, Sept. 15. — Speaking over a state-wide radio hook-up, Thad Holt, state relief administrator, last night reviewed the work of the relief administration in Alabama, and outlined plans for future relief. Birmingham,

He said almost $39,000,000 has been spent in Alabama under the various relief programs in 20 months to care for approximately 100,000 families nearly one-third of which are in Jefferson county. Ala.

"Thus we see the magnitude of the problem," he said. "We are providing some measure of work for 71,000 unemployed and feeding 30,000 others. We are helping 1,300 students through our state colleges this winter. We are caring for 5,000 stranded homeless transients at Fort Morgan, Muscle Shoals and other centers. We are pasturing 36,000 drouth cattle on farms. We are preserving five million cans of vegetables and ten million cans of meat. We are making 25,000 mattresses for families that have never enjoyed a decent, healthful one.

"Somebody isgoing to have to pay this bill of $38,000,000," he warned. "These people themselves are going to have to help pay it. We have instructed our relief directors to purge from their lists those who should now be taking care of themselves, or those who refuse to give an honest day's work for this public money. It is not fair to those who are playing the game. For shortly we expect the state of Alabama through its legislature to be asked to take up a fair share of this burden, for the federal government cannot continue to pay 98 per cent of the cost of relief in Alabama. And when that time comes it behooves all of us as citizens to be convinced that the bill is necessary."

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934 Alabama

U. S. To Expend Million Here On Mass Housing To Replace Negro Slums

Work To Begin Within 30 Days On Huge Project Giving 400 Men Employment For Six Months; Government's Main Plan To Furnish Laboring Class Improved Living Space At Low Rentals

By WALLING KEITH
Associate Editor, The Advertiser

A million-dollar mass housing project, the nucleus of a planned housing system to rid the nation of slum districts, will be launched in Montgomery by the Federal Government within 30 days, it was learned here yesterday. Access to tentative plans revealed that the project here would entail an expenditure of $1,000,000 affording employment for 400 men for six months.

Money for the slum clearance work in Montgomery will come from the Federal Housing Division, which Congress has set aside $100,000,000 from original Public Works Administration funds. Under the plan the Government is to spend at least $1,000,000 on the mass housing project in Montgomery, which is to pay for itself through a system set up by the Housing Committee in Washington.

The first mass housing project to be undertaken in Montgomery under the plans, will be the construction of four giant brick units about 1,000 feet long which will quarter more than 300 negro families at a small rental price. The project will require an area of about 700,000 square feet.

Purpose of Projects

Here is just what the Federal Government wishes to do:

Mr. Roosevelt and his advisers believe that while more than adequate housing needs have been furnished for the upper and middle economic classes, that the wage earners in the so-called lower classes were not properly housed. That is to say that the workers in the lower wage-scale groups are not housed economically (the best w' hin their small incomes), comfortably, and with the proper sanitation facilities.

Communities as a whole, the Administration officers point out, are held in check by squalid, unsanitary conditions in the so-called slum areas.

The Government, which has been studying the various phases of the slum problems, insisted that "reclamation work" be begun among persons in the lowest wage-scale group.

Robert D. Kohn, director of the Federal Housing Corporation in Washington has pointed out that slum clearance does not mean that Washington merely intends to tear down undesirable buildings in slum sections only to rebuild new houses in the same undesirable, unhealthy spots.

In other words, it has been shown, the Government wants to take those persons living in the more squalid sections away from swampy, or otherwise unhealthy land, and to place the new buildings in more desirable sections of the city.

Under the plans in Washington, the first projects will be built for the mass housing of those in the lower wage class, gradually moving up to the building of mass units for persons in the higher economic groups.

How Local Project Works

The mass quarters to be built for negro tenants in Montgomery, will, in accordance with instructions from Washington, be located centrally in a neighborhood zoned exclusively for negroes. It must be adjacent to schools, negro amusement centers and convenient to shopping districts, and transportation facilities. Standard asphalt pavements, connecting with the main arteries to the city are to be nearby and trunkline sanitary sewerage must be available.

In accordance with Washington regulations, an equal number of "slum" houses must be torn down as new living quarters are built. In other words, for every family living compartment built in the proposed new units, an old living unit must be torn down.

The mass housing project is not to be confused with the projects sponsored by the Home Farm Subsistence projects. The former is for ridding cities of slum areas while the latter was organized to place unemployed men to work on small farm plots.

The mass housing project, it is also pointed out in Washington and elsewhere is in no way related to charity housing.

Occupants of the buildings to be erected here must pay a small rental price.

In the negro units to be built here rental prices would range about $3 a room, with most of the compartments to consist of two rooms and a bath.

Mass housing must be distinguished from apartment dwellings. The thought dominating is economical, sanitary and comfortable quarters for the low-wage earner. Such quarters of necessity must be largely self-serviced and so designed that the occupants can maintain the quarters themselves.

The designs suggested and tentatively accepted for Montgomery contemplates three sizes of quarters. A two-unit size consisting of a livingroom-bedroom, dinngroom-kitchen, bath; three unit size, livingroom-bedroom, bedroom, dining-room-kitchen and bath; four unit size, livingroom-bedroom, two bedrooms, dinngroom-kitchen and bath.

The buildings will be only two stories high, with separate entrances and stairways for each unit. No rear entrance.

The buildings will be of fire-proof construction of load-bearing brick walls, concrete slab floors and ceiling, plastered walls, and so designed that the interiors may be washed down at any time with fire hose, for delousing or other sanitary purposes.

The plot plan calls for long parallel structures with 150 feet space between the parallel lines, and all quarters so designed as to receive cross current of air for complete ventilation.

Units have been so designed that there will be no janitor services required, and the occupants must maintain their own premises. The removal of garbage will continue to be done by the city sanitary department.

To Pay for Itself

These properties will be tax-free insofar as ad valorem taxes are concerned because of Federal Government ownership. But the Federal Housing Corporation has caused to be set up in the listed charges for the maintenance of the properties, a sum equivalent to the taxes that the city collects for an equal number of negro houses which this project is to supplant. This money will be paid to the city yearly for municipal service, such as fire, police protection, schools and sanitation.

After a period of 35 years the project will have paid for itself, and will become municipal and State property. If and when this project or similar projects have repaid the money taken out of the Federal treasury, the municipal ownership will make it possible to lower taxes, make additional municipal improvements without levying new taxes and the like, members of the Federal Housing Committee declared.

Mayor Gunter announced yesterday that the director of emergency housing work in Washington, would send an investigator to Montgomery within the next ten days to check proposals to be offered by the Mayor and a local advisory board.

Mayor Gunter has appointed William Nicrosi to investigate the Federal plans here.

A local sponsoring board will be announced within a few days, Mayor Gunter said.

The local sponsoring board, in the absence of a State Housing Commission, will be morally bound to see that the project on its completion is managed "in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Federal Housing Corporation."

It was pointed out that the Roosevelt Administsration believes that one of the virtues of mass housing is that "competent labor being economically housed, will work more contentedly and efficiently for the wage scale that must prevail in the South."

The construction of the project will be supervised by local architects, and local labor will be used, drawing some workmen from CWA projects.

Million-Dollar Slum Clearance Plan Endorsed By Chamber Of Commerce

Directors of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday gave enthusiastic endorsement to the $1,000,000 housing project proposed for Montgomery by the Federal Government. The board not only expressed deep interest in the building program here, but also assured those looking after the city's interests in the negotiations with Government agencies in Washington of its whole-hearted support in the extensive enterprise.

The directors were informed by William Nicrosi, appointed by Mayor Gunter to represent the city in the project, that plans called for the erection of 350 buildings to be rented to negro families in sections where present living conditions are worst. It was pointed out that these initial units may be followed by modern tenement houses in the West End district.

The board was informed that the 350 houses, composing the first unit of the Government's building and housing program in this city, would afford up-to-date living quarters for about 1,400 families, or four families to the building Rentals, it was explained, would be based on the tenant's ability to pay.

Appointment of a building committee, representing the city, the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations of Montgomery, will be the next step to be taken in developing the program, it was announced. Sylvain Baum, vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce, will appoint a member from his organization in a few days. In the absence from the city of President W. A. Bellingrath, of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Baum is acting in that capacity.

Announcement was made at the meeting that the Government proposed to invest $50,00,000 in modern tenement houses in the South. Atlanta is said to have started a movement for a gigantic building program. Next to that city, Montgomery is believed to have made as much or more progress toward effectuating a building program than any other city in the South.

Considerable survey work has already been made here for the initial units, it was revealed. The Government is expected to send engineers to Montgomery as soon as the local organization is set up and ready for business The set up provides that the land be purchased by the Government. The building committee of local citizens will approve the price fixed by owners of the property.

The State Teachers' College is said to be cooperating with the Chamber of Commerce and the City Commission in the building program as affecting negro families.

Owners of houses in the negro districts are also said to be ready to join heartily into the movement.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
ADVERTISER
FEB 25 1934

SLUMS IN MONTGOMERY

Elsewhere on this page today Mr. William Nicrosi, of Montgomery gives a comprehensive and illuminating account of the self-liquidating Federal housing plan under which such a community as Montgomery could go far in removing slums, particularly in the Negro districts.

This better housing plan is of the utmost social and economic significance. All of us who take life seriously, all of us who have been close to slum conditions but had not before dared to hope that anything could be done to improve them, cannot escape taking an intelligent interest in this question.

The Federal Government had a genuine inspiration when it at last devised a workable plan for relieving the man with a mortgage on his home. The Home Loan idea is sound and it is relieving thousands from a pressure which without such enlightened aid would have overcome them.

The Federal government also had a genuine inspiration when it devised a plan of attack upon slums.

Slums and civilization are incongruous

and inharmonious elements. One or the other must go. Let us make a choice between them!

Carl Cooper Named Architect For Slum Clearance Project

Mayor Selects Committee To Push $1,000,000 Housing Plan

Formal organization of the housing committee and the selection of an architect yesterday marked another definite move toward the $1,000,000 building program for negro slum clearance in Montgomery. The Mayor's committee for Housing, sponsoring the Federal project, held its first meeting Monday morning at the Chamber of Commerce and elected Carl Cooper, well known local architect, to prepare the plans and specifications for the initial 350 sanitary and fireproof living units to replace several hundred of the most undesirable shacks or hovels of the city.

Members of the housing committee are William Nicrosi, chairman; Col. W. P. Screws, police and fire commissioner; R. F. Hudson, publisher of The Advertiser; Harry E. Snow, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and Mrs. Charles A. Thigpen, active for a number of years in civic and social welfare work here. Mr. Nicrosi, who has already made an exhaustive study of the housing program, is a well known cotton merchant of Montgomery.

The committee gave its strong and enthusiastic endorsement to the plan for replacing poor living quarters with modern and sanitary living quarters. One of the board's first acts was to adopt a resolution, calling upon Senators Black and Bankhead and Congressman Hill, of the Montgomery district, to assist in expediting the local survey for slum clearance. These representatives in Washington were asked to confer at once with the director of the Federal Emergency Housing Corporation with a view to giving priority to the Montgomery project so that the development may begin as early as practicable.

Ready For Action

The chairman was instructed to submit a definite and a final study of the project to the committee as soon as possible. As soon as the Federal Emergency Housing Corporation authorizes the survey and approves the proposed development, speedy action will start in getting the project underway, it was announced. Montgomery's application for the $1,000,000 project was filed early in January.

The committee was advised that the 350 units, comprising 1,700 rooms, which will probably rent for $3 a month per room. Each unit will contain a bathroom and the heating will likely by with gas.

One requirement is the project must be located in a neighborhood zoned exclusively for negroes; it must have trunk line sewerage, school facilities; must be near negro amusement centers and shopping centers and be convenient to the work of the tenants. Street car transportation must also be available. The Government also requires the units to be located in a desirable and healthy neighborhood. Building will be so designed that they are self-service and free of janitor service.

In order not to create a surplus of negro houses, the housing committee proposes to destroy an equal number, if not more, of occupied houses. The cost of the destruction is to be figured in the cost of the project.

If and when the development is approved in Washington, the committee proposes to buy the most undesirable of the houses in the negro quarters. The owners will not be permitted to rebuild on the lots in two years.

30,000 Negroes Here

Members of the housing committee point out that there are approximately 30,000 negroes within the police jurisdictioin of the city. The erection of 350 units and the destruction of a corresponding number of domiciles will not only raise the standard of living among the colored districts, but will also add materially to the intrinsic wealth of the community, it was contended by the committee.

The tenants will be admitted to the new units on their ability to pay rent, it was explained. Families able to rent the larger and more expensive apartments will naturally be selected, Chairman Nicrosi explained.

Owners of extensive negro property in the city are said to favor the housing program. Options on old shacks will not be taken until after the application is formally approved in Washington.

The committee, in its first meeting yesterday, expressed the hope that the building project might be started as quickly as possible, pointing out that Montgomery had no PWA work. The only relief given the community by the Government is from the CWA, it was explained.

Atlanta yesterday launched a $5,000,000 slum clearance project, one of the first in the South. Both Mobile and Birmingham have proposed developments similar to the one in Montgomery.

Officials of the Chamber of Commerce and others vitally interested in raising the social level of citizens of this city hope that another housing program to affect white persons in the West End section will follow.

The building committee, the first of its kind ever named in Montgomery, was the fruition of a plan conceived last Summer by Mayor Gunter. He and the other members of the City Commission are said to be heartily in favor of the slum clearance program which came into existence with the Roosevelt administration. The housing construction is under the supervision of the Department of Interior.

Gadsden, Ala., Times
March 14, 1934

Slum Clearance In Negro Section Will Be Sought

Montgomery, Ala., March 14.—(AP)—This city's plans for a $1,000,000 negro slum clearance project are being pushed forward with strong and capable hands.

Members of the housing committee named to direct the work are William Nicrosi, chairman; Col. W. P. Screws, police and fire commissioner; R. F. Hudson, publisher of the Montgomery Advertiser; Harry E. Snow, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and Mrs. C. A. Thigpen, outstanding for her social welfare work.

This committee named Carl Cooper, Montgomery architect, to prepare the specifications for the 350 sanitary and fireproof units that will replace undesirable shacks and hovels in the slum districts if the plan succeeds.

The committee then called upon Senators Black and Bankhead to assist in expediting the project that will include 1,700 rooms with a probable rental of $3 per room a month. Each of the 350 units will contain a bathroom, and heating equipment.

The survey by Mr. Cooper, when completed, will be forwarded to the Federal Emergency Housing Corporation with a request for a speedy approval. The formal application for the $1,000,000 project was filed with the corporation early in January.

Birmingham, Ala., News
April 1, 1934

RELIEF WORK IN GREENE COUNTY PRAISED

To the Editor The News:

I want to call the attention of the people to the good the Emergency Relief Administration is doing in Greene County. I do not see how the poorer class of Negroes could have gotten along if it had not been for the highly efficient force of this organization.

There has been an unusual amount of suffering, poverty and sickness among the Negroes and the field workers. Just as soon as a sick person was reported to them, the relief authorities investigated the case. If they found that they needed medical attention, a doctor was sent immediately. Many of them live where it is practically impossible to reach the homes in cars, but they managed to see them in some way. I want the people to know how efficiently the entire corps of workers, both office and field workers, have attended to their duties.

I am a physician and know how much trouble they have experienced, but in every case reported they have certainly attended to it economically and efficiently.

G. A. MOORE.

Eutaw, Ala.

SLUM CLEARANCE IN MONTGOMERY

Montgomerians have been especially interested in the proposed Federal Government Housing project for this city. The special committees appointed to work with officials in Washington have shown the willingness of the people here to cooperate in mass housing experimentation.

The local committees have been quick to catch the spirit behind the mass housing project. Their members have lost no time in which to make careful surveys of the great need for slum clearance work in Montgomery.

It is the understanding of The Advertiser that Washington is seriously considering the location of housing projects in this city or another Alabama city.

This paper should like to call the attention of those who shall decide where to place the housing projects, that Montgomery is an ideal city for such an experiment.

In the first place there is a great need for the clearance of Negro slum areas. It would be impossible for private owners to make the improvements which the Federal Government could make in improving the living conditions of the Negro slum sections here.

Montgomery has not received nearly as much Federal aid as have many other Southern cities. This particular form of Federal aid would be greatly beneficial to the people living here.

As The Advertiser understands it, the two United States Senators from Alabama and the Congressman from this district have the power to make special recommendations to a Cabinet committee which would assure Montgomery of the Federal Housing project.

The Advertiser, speaking for the people of Montgomery, asks that the two Senators from Alabama and the Congressman from this district give the Montgomery Federal Housing project careful attention and consideration.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

Alabama

Slum Clearance In City Gets Federal Approval; $600,000 Is Allocated

Emergency Housing Corporation Acts Favorably On Local Board's Recommendation; 220 Units Are Assured Immediately; Moderate Homes At Low Rentals To Replace Equal Number Of Hovels

The Federal Emergency Housing Corporation has allocated approximately $600,000 to Montgomery for slum clearance, the local board that is sponsoring the project was advised yesterday by Robert B. Mitchell, assistant to the chief of the technical staff of housing for the Roosevelt administration.

Robert B. Mitchell, assistant to the chief of the technical staff division of housing for the Roosevelt administration.

Members of the committee appointed by Mayor Gunter to direct the slum clearance development here said that the $600,000 initial allocation will assure 80 white and 140 negro units, the homes to be modern and rentals moderate. Montgomery's original application was for $1,250,000 of Federal funds for launching a housing project. The committee, however, is gratified at the initial appropriation and is hopeful that additional sums will be available at a later date.

Col. W. P. Screws, chairman of the local committee, and William Nicrosi, who has had charge of preliminary work of the gigantic housing development, said a meeting of the sponsoring board would be held in a few days when more complete plans concerning the project are to be presented.

Washington authorities advised the committee that they would like for the building program to get underway here immediately. Montgomery, it was said, is one of 300 projects to be developed in the near future. Robert D. Kohn, eminent architect and director of housing for the administration, has commended highly the Montgomery survey.

For every unit of government housing erected here, a corresponding number of hovels will be destroyed, it was announced. The committee has not selected any sites for the apartments, it is understood. This will be done, members of the committee said, in a short time.

The project will give the city a Summer payroll of nearly a half million dollars. Carl Cooper is the architect for the local board, with Moreland Smith, member of the Institute or Architects of America, as assistant.

Chairman Screws said last night that the $600,000 allocation is a "wonderful beginning" in the slum clearance program in Montgomery. Other members of the mayor's committee are R. F. Hudson, publisher of The Advertiser; L. D. Rouse, representing the Chamber of Commerce; Mrs. Charles Thigpen, of the Women's Federation of Clubs, and William Nicrosi, director.

Social Service Exchange Is Newest Link Opening In Montgomery Today

The Montgomery Social Service Exchange, which will open formally here today, will be a new link in the social service facilities of this city. It will be located in the Memorial Hospital Building on High Street.

Miss Mildred Smith, a former member of the Administrative Staff of the Montgomery County Relief Committee, will be secretary of the Exchange. Working with her will be a staff of four assistants.

Organization of a social service exchange will fill a long felt need in the social service and welfare work of Montgomery and Montgomery County. Incidentally it will put Montgomery in line with other cities of its size or larger throughout Alabama and the nation, practically all of which have an exchange in operation.

The Social Service Exchange will act as a clearing house for all agencies of the city and county that are engaged in any kind of social or welfare work. Agencies in other cities will also use the local exchange to clear cases which may come to them from this locality.

The exchange has been in the process of organization since the first of February, when a card index file of the cases registered at the Montgomery County Relief Committee was begun. This file will serve as a nucleus with which the organization will begin to serve other agencies. Registrations from the Transient Bureau and the American Red Cross, the agencies with the next largest number of cases on file, will begin Monday, when the Exchange will begin to clear current registrations at these agencies. Master files from these and other smaller agencies of the city will be made as the work of the new organization progresses.

The Montgomery Social Service Exchange is being sponsored by the County Board of Revenue and City Commission. Cooperating with the city and county in this new project, the Montgomery County CWA and the Montgomery County Relief Committee loaned typists to prepare the files and hasten the work. Office equipment has been purchased by the Board of Revenue. The organization will be a permanent one.

Preceding the opening of the Exchange, a canvass of the major number of agencies in the city and county that are engaged in any phase of welfare work was made and hearty support was promised from each. Approximately 60 agencies in this city and county are engaged in social service or welfare work.

The organization may be reached over the telephone at C-4323

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
May 3, 1934

Where Is Our Slum Clearance?

The sum of $600,000 has been allocated by the Federal Emergency Housing Corporation for slum clearance in Montgomery. This is but part of a larger outlay to be made in that city for this excellent purpose. A dispatch tells us that "for every unit of government housing, a corresponding number of hovels will be destroyed." The initial allocation assures the erection of 30 white and 140 Negro units, modern dwellings with moderate rentals. It is not surprising that Col. W. P. Screws, who has been heading a Montgomery committee for slum clearance, describes this appropriation as a "wonderful beginning."

It is that and more, and The Age-Herald takes off its hat to the members of the alert and thoughtful group which has thus received government recognition. Having done that, this paper is permitted to wonder why Birmingham could not have been similarly fortunate. We have plenty of hovels that should be replaced by decent housing, we stand in as much need of slum clearance as Montgomery. Why is it that other communities are receiving the benefit of this building program, while Birmingham is getting nothing at all?

Sometime ago, there was some talk about a slum clearance project for this city. What has become of it? One hears that selfish interests made a cadaver of it. If that is to be believed, then Birmingham is doubly hurt. It is not only deprived of the immediate advantage of a large expenditure of funds, and the ultimate advantage of a social improvement of incalculable importance. It is also deprived of the assurance that its progress will not be hampered by a lack of civic-mindedness on the part of those who subscribe to the philosophy of "hold fast."

A Slum Clearance Project For Birmingham

Commissioner Robinson has announced that surveys of Birmingham to determine the areas which have the most fires, crime and illness will be made by the Fire, Police and Health Departments as a preliminary to efforts to obtain fed-

eral funds for a slum clearance project for the city. This is highly gratifying. Birmingham has great need for a slum clearance project, and the present time, when the federal government is undertaking such work in a number of cities, affords an opportunity which this city should not pass up.

The surveys were agreed upon at a conference between the City Commission and a committee which is endeavoring to promote a slum clearance project. It is necessary that such surveys be made in order to obtain favorable consideration from the government. The information disclosed by the surveys would be essential to the selection by federal officials of a location for a housing project.

In the meantime, Commissioner Downs, who is in Washington attending the Street and Highway Conference, intends to call on public works officials in behalf of a slum clearance and low-cost housing project for Birmingham.

It is to be hoped that Birmingham's appeal for a federal slum clearance enterprise will meet with favorable consideration, especially since that is probably the only possibility for such a project at this time. The city itself cannot spend money on a housing project.

Even if Birmingham does not succeed in gaining the aid of the federal government, the surveys in themselves will be well worthwhile. They will reveal much information of value to the Fire, Police and Health Departments.

Relief Projects Being Carried On In Alabama

Aside from the rural rehabilitation work, which is the most important phase of the federal relief program in Alabama at this time, the announcement has been made that some of the projects begun under the auspices of the CWA are to be continued. That is fine news. It would be a downright shame if the efficient machinery set up by the CWA—and as suddenly dismantled in some cases—were allowed to fall completely into the discard.

Among the projects for the continuation of which money has been appropriated is the flood control work in South Alabama. The federal authorities are to be congratulated upon seeing the importance of completing the system of levees designed to prevent the loss of property from the waters of Alabama streams which overflow their banks rather regularly at certain seasons.

Another CWA project which ought to be continued is the work of malaria control. Nothing in the whole program of the CWA in Alabama was more impressive than the success which that organization enjoyed in making life in Alabama miserable for mosquitoes. The happy breeding places of these pestilence-laden creatures were made unendurable for them. Great ditches drained the swamps wherein the mosquitoes had been accustomed to dwell in security and in full enjoyment of their deadly powers.

To be sure, the CWA organization did not invent the methods of dealing with malaria in Alabama. The methods used were those which had long been recognized by health officers. In its work, the CWA had the excellent cooperation of a state health department which had not lost its zeal for doing a good job, even though it had temporarily lost much of its financial support.

But there is no question that the attack on the mosquito in Alabama was waged last Winter and Spring by the CWA on a bigger and more successful scale than it had ever been waged before. Expert methods, money, labor and determination were all combined to obtain excellent results.

Perhaps it would be well for all the citizens in Alabama to realize how near we have been to an actual epidemic of malaria during the months in which our usual public health work has been so seriously curtailed. No one will ever know the extent of the debt which we owe the federal relief administration for its work in preventing a scourge of mosquitoes this Spring.

What the CWA put under way in its malaria control must in some manner be carried forward. Perhaps federal funds will have to furnish a part of the wherewithal for the present. But swampy and miasmic areas must never be allowed to exist in Alabama again. We cannot afford to let mosquitoes drug our minds and deplete our physical energies any more.

The Complaints Against The Welfare Department

Thoughtful citizens cannot have failed to be impressed by the statement of the board of the Department of Public Welfare concerning complaints made against it to the City Commission by representatives of the Real Estate Owners Association. The statement, issued over the signature of the Rev. Dr. Charles Clingman, chairman of the board, is quiet and reserved in tone and brief in text, but its implications are very significant.

The Real Estate Owners Association charges that the department is encouraging tenants not to pay rent, that it is being advertised that free rent is being obtained for persons on relief. The board's statement says that 'neither in policy nor in practice does the Department of Public Welfare encourage any persons under its care not to pay rent or any other obligations which they are able to pay." Moreover, the board says that a number of conferences have been held with representatives of the association in an effort to make some provision for the payment of rent, that it has been the desire of the board to establish a policy of paying rent, and that a great deal of thought and effort has been devoted to that subject. "The sole reason for the non-payment of rent as a policy," the statement continues, "has been and now is the lack of funds."

Why could not this matter have remained one between the board and the association, to be worked out quietly, instead of being publicly agitated in the way it has been done? The board's avowed purpose is to establish a policy of paying rent, and the sole reason for non-payment of rent is the lack of funds. The board is not to blame if funds are lacking.

It is charged also that many persons are receiving more groceries than they need, and that Negroes on relief are trading groceries for gasoline and whisky. The board "regrets that any known instances of such occurrences have not been called to the attention of the department by persons having this knowledge." If trading groceries for gasoline and whisky has been going on, the Department of Public Welfare should have been the first to be told about it. But apparently no one took the pains to inform the department of such occurrences. If anyone knows positively of any specific instances of the kind, why were they not reported to the proper authorities? The board could, and undoubtedly would, take steps to correct any abuses of that sort. If it is merely a matter of hearsay, it should not have been publicly charged.

Most citizens of Birmingham and Jefferson County know that the Department of Public Welfare has been doing an extraordinarily good job of relief work in a situation which is probably as difficult as any other to be found anywhere. The department deserves the sympathetic consideration and support of public opinion. To be sure, mistakes have been made and grievances have cropped up; in an undertaking of such magnitude that is inevitable. But on the whole no one can reasonably contend that the department has not performed its task well.

Mediation in Order

It was inevitable that a showdown should have been forced between the relief authorities in Birmingham and the organized real estate owners.

Some months ago this newspaper expressed the opinion that there was no more logic in expecting real estate proprietors to give their houses rent-free to the unemployed than in asking grocers to afford food free of charge.

There are taxes, public improvement assessments and upkeep and insurance charges to be met, whether the occupants of a house are paying rent or are occupying the premises free of charge.

The committee which waited on the city commission yesterday charged that the department of public welfare has refused to see its representatives or to answer its letters. We do not know. Perhaps there is a natural inclination here to over-emphasize the grievance.

We have a great deal of respect for the ability and good intentions of the board of public welfare and its executive head, Miss Morgan. But the real estate men apparently have a just grievance which should be heard and righted.

In our opinion, there is an excellent opportunity for the city commission to act in a mediating capacity to work out a solution without interfering too much in the internal affairs of a relief organization which, on the whole, acquitted itself well at a difficult task.

HOLT IS SPEAKER AT NEGRO CONFERENCE

First Meeting Of Negro Social Workers In Alabama Held At Tuskegee Institute

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Nov. 20.—(Special)—Thad Holt, director of the Alabama Relief Administration, was the chief speaker at the opening session of the Alabama institute for negro social workers which opened at Tuskegee Institute today. The meeting will continue through Thursday.

Miss Charlotte Leeper, assisted by Miss Ann Botsford, is conducting the institute, the first for negro social workers to be held in Alabama.

Miss Leeper, director of the Bureau of Training and Personnel of the ARA, presented the wife of President R. R. Moton, who also is director of women's industries, at Tuskegee Institute. She brought greetings from President Moton, who regretted it was necessary for him to be away from the institute during the meeting.

Dr. F. D. Patterson, head of the School of Agriculture, presented Mr. Holt and referred to him as a man of highest ideals and keenest intellect, who put humanity before nation or before race.

Mr. Holt held the close attention of his audience, social workers, faculty members, agricultural extension workers, home economics students, and members of the classes in sociology, for nearly an hour.

He said he hated the word "relief" because relief was never constructive nor fundamentally helpful. He cited concrete examples to show how rehabilitation was wiping out both the need and the practice of relief.

"My job," he said, in conclusion, "is not to establish a wonderful bureaucracy or relief administration, but to make every needy family self-sustaining and self-supporting, with a higher standard of living and the knowledge of and the desire for wholesome recreation.

"To realize this ideal the intelligent cooperation of trained social workers is essential, he said. Mr. Holt paid high tribute to the splendid cooperation of Dr. Moton and his wife in putting over the relief and rehabilitation program.

Mr. Holt introduced Col. Joseph H. Pratt, regional supervisor and consulting engineer of the FERA at Washington. This was Col. Pratt's first visit to Tuskegee, although he long had been acquainted with its work and was present when the founder, Booker T. Washington, was given the degree of D. D., by an outstanding Northern university.

Col. Pratt, like Mr. Holt, urged the necessity for substituting rehabilitation for relief. He was hopeful for the agricultural-industrial program about to be inaugurated in operation under the subsistence-homestead plan, the project to be supervised by Tuskegee Institute on an abandoned sawmill site two miles east of the school.

Alabama.

Social Conditions, Improvement of-1934

CITY BENEFITS BY NEW DEAL IN MILLIONS

Post

Survey Shows $12,000,000 Is Allotted Birmingham By Administration

10-14-34

HUGE FUND FOR RELIEF

Birmingham

Local, State Governments Have Done Little In Defraying Cost

By Charles Edmundson

Total outlay of New Deal funds alloted to Birmingham and Jefferson county since the Roosevelt inauguration a year and eight months ago is in excess of $12,000,000, a survey showed today.

An analysis made as a sidelight on the charge that Birmingham has been the "stepchild" of the New Deal showed not only these direct outlays for this district but revealed also that the Magic City has been one of the chief indirect beneficiaries of the enormous outlay of funds in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's cotton acreage reduction program.

It was also shown that the industrial plants of the Birmingham district have profited directly from the billions expended to stimulate public construction and the heavy industries over the country.

$7,900,000 For Relief

Total relief funds for the Birmingham district, including both direct relief and work relief payments were placed by Thad Holt, relief administrator for Alabama, at $7,900,000. Birmingham has one of the heaviest relief loads in the country to the cost of which the state, county and city government have done relatively little to contribute.

It is generally conceded that it would have been impossible for the district to have levied and collected sufficient taxes to handle its relief burden, now approximating a half million dollars monthly.

The city has received $1,360,000 for widening and deepening Village Creek and to build new storm sewers.

Five subsistence homestead projects alloted Jefferson county will cost $750,000.

Highways and streets built or improved in Birmingham and Jefferson county since March 4, 1933, have cost $1,181,482.

The Jefferson county board of education has been promised $198,000 with which to construct new school buildings or repair existing ones.

A loan of $260,000 has been indicated for school construction in Bessemer.

The Jefferson county board of education received an outright grant of $200,000 to enable county schools to complete the regular school term last year.

Farmers Benefit

This was part of a total federal gift of $2,300,000 to Alabama schools to complete their normal school terms. Alabama was one of a few states which received federal money for this purpose last year.

Jefferson county farmers have been allotted or paid approximately $65,000 in cotton acreage reduction subsidies in the past two years. Birmingham wholesale and retail stores have received a life-saving impetus from increased purchasing power in the state, due to the improved price of cotton and the payment of $24,005,382 in cotton acreage reduction benefits to farmers over the state in the past two years.

In addition to outright grants, the Home Owners Loan Corp. has lent a total of $9,000,000 to enable Birmingham and Jefferson county householders to keep their residences.

Figures on loans of the Reconstruction Finance Corp. in the county are not available, but they are thought to run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

About $16,000,000 has been made available to build highways over the state since the Roosevelt inauguration. Birmingham cement plants have obtained a due share of orders for cement for construction work in this and surrounding states. The same is true of orders for reenforcing steel.

Steel plants here also have been helped by orders resulting from construction work of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Birmingham has received direct and tangible benefit from the TVA expenditures in the form of decreased rates for electricity consumers, which were forced largely by pressure from the Roosevelt power program, these amount to nearly $400,000 a year.

Construction is underway on Irondale's $67,000 sewage system, while Warrior's $$38,000 waterworks plant project has been approved. The $24,000 Brookside waterworks project is expected to be under construction within a few weeks.

Road Projects Approved

A total of 18 highway projects have been approved, with 11 of them either completed or under construction.

Bituminous surfacing of the Birmingham-Leeds highway cost $35,000, while concrete paving of the road from Birmingham to Homewood cost $229,000.

The Birmingham outlet toward Harpersville was surfaced at an expense of $54,800. Brick and asphalt pavement on Niazuma Ave., Eighth Ave. and 26th St. cost $79,978.14.

Grading and drainage of the Morris-Monmouth highway cost $40,408.51.

Concrete bridges were constructed near Powderly, $8,000; Pratt City, $2,778.75; Overhead at Mulga loop, $7,452.22; near Patton's Chapel, $9,064.60; near Mount Pinson, $6,000; Tarrant City, $30,000.

Several large projects have been approved, but construction work has not yet started. They are:

Paving and construction of an overhead bridge entering Birmingham on highway U. S. No. 31, $133,000.

Bituminous surfacing of the Huffman-Mount Pinson road, $121,000.

Grading and draining of the Birmingham-Bessemer road, $200.000.

Construction of an overhead bridge on Ninth Ave., Birmingham, $140,000.

Bituminous surfacing the Birmingham-Jasper road, $25,000.

Concrete pavement of First Avenue, Birmingham, $50,000.

Grading and draining on Third Ave., W., Birmingham, $10,000.

Nursery School To Open At Tuskegee

Advertiser

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Oct. 22.—The third session of the training school for negro women in Alabama nursery school management under Federal aid will open at Tuskegee Institute Tuesday, to run two weeks. Ten young women from various counties in the State will take the course. The second session closed Oct. 12.

10-23-34

The 10 trainers of this session were from Chambers, Montgomery, Jefferson and Tuscaloosa Counties. Prof. Mott Simms, who has her masters degree in home economics from Columbia University, is in charge of the nursery school at Tuskegee Institute. She was assisted in presenting this special course by Mr. W. A. Arnquist, Auburn, and Miss Lu R. Palmer, State supervisor of nursery schools for Alabama. In addition to the lectures by these specialists, talks and demonstrations were given by members of the Institute faculty on health, games, foods, photography, manual training, home crafts, and psychology, as they pertain to children. Gennie B. Moton, head of the department of home economics at the Institute, gave practical instruction in making parent contacts and home visits and arranged for the trainees to make visits to homes in the community.

The trainees returned immediately to take up their duties in nursery schools recently organized in Lafayette, Bessemer, Tuscaloosa, and Montgomery.

Aging Negroes Dream Of Pearly Gates At 'Home'

Fifteen Inmates Of Dwelling Made Possible By Chest, Almost Hidden By Football Grandstand, Are Happy As They Live Last Years In Land Of Memories

By Bill Huie

In a large, rambling house just behind Birmingham's big football stadium, 15 tired old negroes totter to their bedsides each night and "thank de good Lawd for de blessings we have received."

Those "blessings," provided by Birmingham's Community Chest, consist only of necessities—food, shelter, "second-han' clothes," a little tobacco and snuff and "dessert twice a week," but these are enough to make the inmates of the Colored Old Folks home as happy as they used to be at chitlin'-eatin' time.

Few persons know "the home" is there, although a stone's throw away is Eighth Ave. But here these simple old souls, no longer stirred by the impulse of strife, sit in peace and security and "dream of Zion."

"Brother Peter" is there. Nigh onto 100 years old he must be, for he "'members as if it wuz yestiday de day when dey blowed de hawn and called us up out of de field and tol' us we wuz as free as dey wuz."

Religion Has Changed

And what a man "Brother Peter" was in his day. Of course, he "expects to go any day now" and he is 'prepared," but he still chuckles as he recalls "de days back down on de farm when I use to play de banjo fo' de white folks. Many's de night I would leave ma cabin and go off and stay all night. Den I would come back and tell me old woman dat I beer playin' ma banjo. But I hadn' been playin' dat banjo all dat time, no suh."

The young folks today "aint got de 'ligion we folks had," according to Brother Peter, "an' all dey thinks about is runnin' aftar de gals."

On close questioning, Brother Peter admits to fathering 22 children by at least four wives.

A few chickens have just been added to the small farm at the home. There aren't many yet, but Brother Peter whispers that "some of these nights when ah feels right peart,, there'll be more chickens in dat lot."

Asks About 'Chile'

Upstairs there is an old negress who has been unable to leave her room for five years. By the hours she sits at the window and knits socks for the orphans who live next door. The other 10 women spend their time "quiltin'."

There there is "Mandy." "Mandy" wants to know how "my chile" is a-gittin' along," and it is somewhat surprising to find that Mandy's "chile who I raised and bounced on ma knee many a time" is a gray-headed man who sits on the bench at the courthouse.

At that all of them chime in and tell about their "chillun"—most of whom are familiar figures in Birmingham's business life with "chillun" and "grandchillun" of the community.

Here there is no talk of "Community Chest." These simple souls, in their last clining earthward, see no gain in spending these old toilers to spend last hours "dreamin' of de streets and de pearly gates" the face of fate. They have lived a life stripped of all its fantasies and have found it good. They also have served and they ask only

They Appreciate Aid

Less is spent to support this "home" than any other agency of the Community Chest. No trained nurses or doctors are needed—only food and shelter. But in no one of the 30-odd agencies is there a chance in happier spirit or a deeper feeling that the scant appropriation which

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$7,900,000 For Relief

Total relief funds for the Birmingham district, including both direct relief and work relief payments were placed by Thad Holt, relief administrator for Alabama, at $7,900,000. Birmingham has one of the heaviest relief loads in the country to the cost of which the state, county and city government have done relatively little to contribute.

It is generally conceded that it would have been impossible for the district to have levied and collected sufficient taxes to handle its relief burden, now approximating a half million dollars monthly.

The city has received $1,360,000 for widening and deepening Village Creek and to build new storm sewers.

Five subsistence homestead projects alloted Jefferson county will cost $750,000.

Highways and streets built or improved in Birmingham and Jefferson county since March 4, 1933, have cost $1,181,482.

The Jefferson county board of education has been promised $198,000 with which to construct new school buildings or repair existing ones.

A loan of $260,000 has been indicated for school construction in Bessemer.

The Jefferson county board of education received an outright grant of $200,000 to enable county schools to complete the regular school term last year.

Farmers Benefit

This was part of a total federal gift of $2,300,000 to Alabama schools to complete their normal school terms. Alabama was one of a few states which received federal money for this purpose last year.

Jefferson county farmers have been allotted or paid approximately $65,000 in cotton acreage reduction subsidies in the past two years. Birmingham wholesale and retail stores have received a life-saving impetus from increased purchasing power in the state, due to the improved price of cotton and the payment of $24,005,382 in cotton acreage reduction benefits to farmers over the state in the past two years.

In addition to outright grants, the Home Owners Loan Corp. has lent a total of $9,000,000 to enable Birmingham and Jefferson county householders to keep their residences.

Figures on loans of the Reconstruction Finance Corp. in the county are not available, but they are thought to run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

About $16,000,000 has been made available to build highways over the state since the Roosevelt inauguration. Birmingham cement plants have obtained a due share of orders for cement for construction work in this and surrounding states. The same is true of orders for reenforcing steel.

Steel plants here also have been helped by orders resulting from construction work of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Birmingham has received direct and tangible benefit from the TVA expenditures in the form of decreased rates for electricity consumers, which were forced largely by pressure from the Roosevelt power program. These amount to nearly $400,000 a year.

Construction is underway on Irondale's $67,000 sewage system, while Warrior's $$38,000 waterworks plant project has been approved. The $24,000 Brookside waterworks project is expected to be under construction within a few weeks.

Road Projects Approved

A total of 18 highway projects have been approved, with 11 of them either completed or under construction.

Bituminous surfacing of the Birmingham-Leeds highway cost $35,000, while concrete paving of the road from Birmingham to Homewood cost $229,000.

The Birmingham outlet toward Harpersville was surfaced at an expense of $54,800. Brick and asphalt pavement on Niazuma Ave., Eighth Ave. and 26th St. cost $79,978.14.

Grading and drainage of the Morris-Monmouth highway cost $40,408.51.

Concrete bridges were constructed near Powderly, $8,000; Pratt City, $2,778.75; Overhead at Mulga loop, $7,452.22; near Patton's Chapel, $9,064.60; near Mount Pinson, $6,000; Tarrant City, $30,000.

Several large projects have been approved, but construction work has not yet started. They are:

Paving and construction of an overhead bridge entering Birmingham on highway U. S. No. 31, $133,000.

Bituminous surfacing of the Huffman-Mount Pinson road, $121,000.

Grading and draining of the Birmingham-Bessemer road, $200.000.

Construction of an overhead bridge on Ninth Ave., Birmingham, $140,000.

Bituminous surfacing the Birmingham-Jasper road, $25,000.

Concrete pavement of First Avenue, Birmingham, $50,000.

Grading and draining on Third Ave., W., Birmingham, $10,000.

Nursery School To Open At Tuskegee

Advertiser

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Oc 22.—The third session of the trainir school for negro women in Alabama nursery school management under Fe eral aid will open at Tuskegee Institu Tuesday, to run two weeks. Ten your women from various counties in the Sta will take the course. The second sessio closed Oct. 12.

10-23-34

The 10 trainers of this session we from Chambers, Montgomery, Jefferso and Tuscaloosa Counties. Prof. Mot Simms, who has her masters degree home economics from Columbia Unive sity, is in charge of the nursery scho at Tuskegee Institute. She was assiste in presenting this special course by Mr W. A. Arnquist, Auburn. and Miss Lu R. Palmer, State supervisor of nursery schools for Alabama. In addition to the lectures by these specialists, talks and demonstrations were given by members of the Institute faculty on health, games, foods, photography, manual training, home crafts, and psychology, as they pertain to children. Gennie B. Moton, head of the department of home economics at the Institute, gave practical instruction in making parent contacts and home visits and arranged for the trainees to make visits to homes in the community.

The trainees returned immediately to take up their duties in nursery schools recently organized in Lafayette, Bessemer, Tuscaloosa, and Montgomery.

Aging Negroes Dream Of Pearly Gates At 'Home'

Fifteen Inmates Of Dwelling Made Possible By Chest, Almost Hidden By Football Grandstand, Are Happy As They Live Last Years In Land Of Memories

By Bill Huie

In a large, rambling house just behind Birmingham's big football stadium, 15 tired old negroes totter to their bedsides each night and "thank de good Lawd for de blessings we have received."

Post

10-19-34

Birmingham

Those "blessings," provided by Birmingham's Community Chest, consist only of necessities—food, shelter, "second-han' clothes," a little tobacco and snuff and "dessert twice a week," but these are enough to make the inmates of the Colored Old Folks home as happy as they used to be at chitlin'-eatin' time.

Few persons know "the home" is there, although a stone's throw away is Eighth Ave. But here these simple old souls, no longer stilrred by the impulse of strife, sit in peace and security and "dream of Zion."

"Brother Peter" is there. Nigh onto 100 years old he must be, for he "'members as if it wuz yestiday de day when dey blowed de hawn and called us up out of de field and tol' us we wuz as free as dey wuz."

Religion Has Changed

And what a man "Brother Peter" was in his day. Of course, he "expects to go any day now" and he is 'prepared," but he still chuckles as he recalls "de days back down on de farm when I use to play de banjo fo' de white folks. Many's de night I would leave ma cabin and go off and stay all night. Den I would come back and tell me old woman dat I been playin' ma banjo. But I hadn' been playin' dat banjo all dat time, no suh."

The young folks today "aint got de 'ligion we folks had," according to Brother Peter, "an' all dey thinks about is runnin' aftar de gals."

On close questioning, Brother Peter admits to fathering 22 children by at least four wives.

A few chickens have just been added to the small farm at the home. There aren't many yet, but Brother Peter whispers that "some of these nights when ah feels right peart,, there'll be more chickens in dat lot."

Asks About 'Chile'

Upstairs there is an old negress who has been unable to leave her room for five years. By the hours she sits at the window and knits socks for the orphans who live next door. The other 10 women spend their time "quiltin'.".

There there is "Mandy." "Mandy" wants to know how "my chile is a-gittin' along," and it is somewhat surprising to find that Mandy's "chile who I raised and bounced on ma knee many a time" is a gray-headed man who sits on the bench at the courthouse.

At that all of them chime in and tell about their "chillun"—most of whom are familiar figures in Birmingham's business life with "chillun" and "grandchillun" of the own.

Here these old toilers to spend there is no talk of "Co last hours "dreamin' of de "home" than any other agency of and have found it good. They also the Community Chest. No trained have served and they ask only nurses or doctors are needed—only food and shelter. But in no one Money expended here is not go- of the 30-odd agencies is there a ing "to give someone a chance in happier spirit or a deeper feeling the world." But somehow you feel of appreciation which that the scant appropriation which

They Appreciate Aid

Less is spent to support this the face of fate. munism." These simple souls, ir life stripped of all its fantasies clining earthward, see no g golden streets and de pearly gates" wastad

TUSKEGEE SOCIAL WORKERS ADJOURN

Three-Day Institute For Negroes Closes With Talks By Experts

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Nov 22.—(Special)—The Alabama Institute for negro social workers closed a successful three-day session here this afternoon with addresses from social service and sociology experts from the Alabama Recovery Administration, Atlanta School of Social Service and the faculty of Tuskegee Institute.

Miss Ann Botsford, co-director of the bureau of training and personnel led the discussion on case work at the afternoon session. Miss Charlotte Leeper director of the Bureau, presided at the morning session and presented as speakers, Jennie B. Moton, director of women's industries, Tuskegee Institute; Monroe N. Work, editor of the Negro Year Book; R. N. Davis, teacher of sociology and assistant director of the department of records and research, Tuskegee Institute; Frances M. Stephenson, assistant to Miss Mary Weber, director of recreational activities program of the A. R. A. Forrester B. Washington, director of the school of social work, Atlanta, Ga., was asked to sum up his impressions of the session.

His outstanding impression was the need for trained and intelligent leadership among negroes if the problems that the social workers are everywhere recognizing are to be solved with any constructive and permanent benefit to the negro. "The negro," he said, "is crying for intelligent leadership and if the social workers do not give him this leadership we must not quarrel with him if he follows bogus leaders, the Father Divines, the Father Davids, the Communists and the like." The speaker also stressed the need of more self-help organizations among negroes that will enable them to be an asset not only to negro life but to national life.

Frances M. Stephenson explained the recreational program of the A. R. A. This program is already in operation in 48 counties among the white and in seven or eight among the negroes.

"Recreation is one of the fundamentals of life," said the speaker. "With the growing permanency of shorter work hours, leisure time is here to stay." The necessity of properly qualified leaders for recreational activities called forth much discussion. It was obvious that relief rolls contain few who have even a basic training for this type of leadership. It was suggested that special institutes or intensive courses such as those for Nursery School leaders be organized.

R. N. Davis in his address stressed the need of a program that would get at the truth about conditions, not one that would give merely what is pleasing to the negroes.

Monroe N. Work urged the workers o realize that we are not in the midst of a sectional or national depression, out of a world depression. "We must get in our minds that things will never again be as they once were," he said.

President Moton's wife discussed community relationships by outlining the Tuskegee program of social service as it is carried out through the Movable School, the annual Tuskegee Negro Conference, the Interdenominational Ministers Alliance, the annual clinic at the institute hospital, the public health service administered through the health center, the annual flower show, the Federated clubs, the institute chapter of the American Red Cross, and the practice teaching in rural schools by classes in education, home economics and vocational agriculture. She spoke also of the fine help obtained through the CWA and welfare agencies for mattress-making and other work projects for women that had helped greatly in improving community relationships. "We can improve relationships by keeping people busy and happy," she concluded. "We begin in the home. There we teach the women to make their homes more attractive by taking what they have to make what they want." To illustrate this point the speaker presented an exhibit of inexpensive wall treatments—newspaper and feed sacks brushed with calsomine—that would make even a cabin more livable and comfortable.

The meeting closed with the hope expressed by the delegates and visitors that since this three days had been so profitable this might be the beginning of a series of similar institutes for negro social workers.

The delegates present were intake officers and visitors from Birmingham, Montgomery, Tuscaloosa, Tuskegee, Mobile, Dothan and Anniston.

Others who contributed to the program were: T. M. Campbell, field agent, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Dean W. T. B. Williams, L. C. Hanna, State agent; B. T. Pompey, of the movable school; V. C. Turner, State club agent; Dr. F. D. Patterson, director, school of agriculture; Thad Holt, of the Alabama Relief Administration; Col. Joseph Pratt, of Washington; the Rev. William Crowe, of Talladega, were outstanding speakers of the first day.

NEGRO INSTITUTE HEARS EXPERTS

Several State Social Workers Address Conference At Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Nov. 21.—(Special)—The Alabama institute for negro social workers at Tuskegee Institute opened its second day with Miss Ann Botsford, co-director of the personnel bureau of the ARA presiding and an attendance of 25 of the 33 negro social workers in the State, faculty social workers of Tuskegee Institute and students in sociology and social problems.

The Rev. William Crowe, pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Talladega, was the first speaker. He emphasized the necessity of the social worker's being as consecrated for service as is the minister of the gospel. "Don't ever forget that your clients are individuals, not merely cases." Professionalism will kill everything good your organization can achieve. Keep human and remember that your clients are human, too."

Dr. B. F. Austin, medical adviser for the Alabama Relief Administration, told of the organization of the public health services available in the various counties—50 counties now having public health units. He urged the social workers to learn and use the health officers in their communities in solving the problems of rehabilitation in the homes.

Mrs. Willard Stovall Lee, supervisor of rural rehabilitation for the Alabama Relief Administration, cleared up many hazy points in the minds of the audience with regard to the details of Class 1 and Class 2 of the farm families in the rural rehabilitation program. The problem of finding school facilities for isolated negro farm children who, by the removal of their families from the city, were taken out of the junior high schools and located in communities where the schools did not continue beyond the third grade, was discussed at length.

Mrs. Lee, in agreement with Miss Charlotte Leeper and Miss Botsford, recognized the pertinence of the question and felt that it was one to which the administration would give constructive consideration. This problem of school facilities does not obtain in such subsistence projects as are to be created in Macon County.

Mrs. Simon, of the State Child Welfare Department, was the last speaker of the morning. She represented Mrs. A. M. Tunsstall, director of the department, who was unable to be present because of illness in her family.

Mrs. Simon said three of the greatest needs in the welfare work were: provision by the State for the care of mentally deficient negro children, who at present roam the streets as potential delinquents; improved and increased school facilities for the rural negro children, who oftentimes must stand in cold, leaky buildings without seats or blackboards; and negro workers in the county welfare program. In working in the homes and with negro parents, negro workers are able to accomplish far more than white workers, she said.

Mrs. Simon also expressed a hope that Alabama soon would have more negro probation officers.

For the afternoon session, Miss Botsford led the discussion on "The Unemployables."

Forrester Washington, director of the Atlanta School of Social Work, was the speaker at the night session.

The Institute will continue through Thursday with Miss Mary Weber, director of the bureau of special activities, AAA, and the wife of President R. R. Moton, as the principal speakers.

NEGROES ORGANIZE AT MASONIC TEMPLE

State Headquarters Are Opened By Civic Organization

A state headquarters for the Alabama Federation of Colored Civic leagues was opened and dedicated in the Little Masonic temple at p.m. yesterday. George Bellsynder and Judge J. Fritz Thompson delivered brief addresses in which they stressed the value of high ideals and good citizenship. W. L. McAlpine, president of the federation, introduced the speakers.

Economic Backing For Negroes Asked In Holt Address

Thad Holt, director of the Alabama relief administration, declared in an address at the opening of the annual negro conference at Tuskegee institute Wednesday that 'if there is a so called 'negro problem' in Alabama today it is not so much a social as it is an economic problem."

Several hundred negro farmers, educational leaders and others were present for the annual gathering. Others on the program later in the day included Dr. J. N. Baker, state health officer; John H. Peach, legal advisor to Governor B. M. Miller and Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the institute.

"We are looking to Tuskegee institute, co-operating with the other agencies of the state, for the leadership among their own people that will bring the negro out of the trough of depression and the slough of despond," Mr. Holt said.

Rural Life Advised

"We ask Tuskegee to realize with us," Mr. Holt continued, "that the background of the negro in Alabama is basically agricultural, that his mind is attuned to the soil, and we think that it will in a large measure be from the soil that he can gain control of his own destiny."

"If there is a so-called 'negro problem' in Alabama today, it is not as much as a social as it is an economic problem. To our mind it is true that if we could aid the negro to place himself on a sound economic basis, standing on his own account, without the necessity of dependence on the vagaries of social adjustment, then the other aspects of the problem would more quickly solve themselves. It seems logical that a materially larger number of independent negro farmers, as well as independent white farmers, will be of tremendous advantage to the state as a whole and particularly to the advancement of the negro race."

During the morning a meeting to the board of directors of the Alabama rural rehabilitation corporation was held. Among the directors present were:

During the morning a meeting of Thad Holt, John H. Peach, Ray Crowe, A. P. Morgan, of Montgomery; L. N. Duncan, of Auburn; Dr. Moton, H. C. Ryding, of Birmingham, and W. A. Hartman, of Washington; M. J. Miller, of Washington, and Algernon Blair, of Montgomery, the other members, could not be present.

Social Conditions, Improvement of-1934

Arkansas.

FORT SMITH, ARK
TIMES RECORD

MAR 13 1934

THE NEGRO'S PLIGHT

An interesting fact about the negro's plight in the depression is revealed by a recent census of relief activities in Arkansas and the nation.

The number of negroes on relief in Arkansas is approximately 27 per cent of the relief rolls, which is almost exactly the negro proportion of the whole population. In the nation as a whole, negroes make up 9 per cent of the population and 18 per cent of the relief rolls. That means that negroes in Arkansas have fared as well as the white people, while depression has hit them much harder in other states.

The negro is in better position in the Southern states where he is understood. The wise negroes know it

D.C.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

MODEL HOUSING PLAN APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Washington Tribune
2-4-34
Washington D.C.

Low Priced Building to Be Erected by Government in Northwest

1-25-34

A plan to renovise and rebuild a model housing area in the Northwest section was approved by the National Housing Committee which met in the Bar Building this week.

The area includes from the south side of W Street, including the north side of Elm Street, from the east side of Fifth Street, including the west side of Second Street.

The plans for the project were drawn by Hilyard Robinson, of Howard University. Three classes of houses are included in the project; a few for professionals and for middle classes, but the majority will be for the persons with small incomes.

1-25-34

LOW RENTS

The entire project will be under government supervision and rents will be compared with those now being paid by alley dwellers.

The committee is headed by Frederick Delano, a relative of President Roosevelt. There are three colored members on the committee: Judge James A. Cobb, Major Campbell C. Johnson, executive secretary of the Twelfth Street Y.M.C.A., and the Rev. R. W. Brooks, pastor of the Lincoln Temple Congregational Church.

Mrs. Roosevelt, wife of the President, was present during the meeting and was heartily in favor of the project submitted.

It has also been suggested that Negro workers be employed to supervise the project during the erection of the houses and after they are completed.

PLAN FOR NEGRO PWA APTS. HERE

Argus
2-2-34

Local Organization Sponsoring Plans for West Belle Low Cost Housing

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1—(ANP) The West Belle Garden Apartments, Incorporated, a housing project for Negroes, has been submitted to the PWA in Washington by a St. Louis organization. This is the first co-operative housing project that has been submitted from that section. It has as its primary purposes the rehabilitation of an area in the city in which Negroes live and the re-employment of Negroes. There is a provision in the project that Negroes, especially skilled workers, be used in the construction work. If the project is approved it will provide employment for two or four hundred Negroes.

St. Louis, Mo.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Fred A. Jones, realtor and advertising man of the St. Louis Argus, is promoter of the proposed improvement project for Negroes which would be known as the West Belle Garden Apartments and located at the northwest corner of Sarah street and West Belle place. It calls for a 164 family structure with basic rental of $6 a month for one room and $10 with light, heat and hot water.

Mr. Jones stated that the PWA returned the plans for revision so that the rent would be in keeping with low cost housing classification. The board of review has granted a limited time for the revision.

The plan has the endorsement of the Urban League, especially because it calls for Negro workmen for the construction work and it will greatly improve housing conditions for Negroes of St. Louis.

John R. Steele and Sons, local architects are in charge of drawing the blue prints for the structure, while Frederick F. Simms and William Alexander are engineers.

75 PER CENT OF THOSE SEEKING AID ARE COLORED

Tribune

Director Halbert Reports Curtailment of Funds and Cold, Cause

2-15-34

Due to the curtailment of Civil Works Administration funds coupled with extreme weather and other conditions, approximately 4,000 families have been added to the District Relief rolls since the first of the year, Dr. Leroy A. Halbert, director, announced this week.

Washington D.C.

Of this number, 75 per cent are colored, according to a statement by Dr. Blanch Wilcox, diretor of the Research Department of the bureau.

947 Families Seek Aid

"Our records show that either because of cold weather, the necessity for CWA curtailment, or other factors, 946 families have applied to have their cases reopened so that they might obtain aid," said Director Halbert. "Since the first of January, 4,059 families never previously on our rolls have registered, making a total of 5,005 families. These are additional to such as are already receiving aid."

He pointed out that every effort is being expended to give prompt aid. Rules and regulations are stretched whenever it is possible to do so in order to prevent suffering. "Social workers" clerks and others are bending every energy to answer the calls for help," Dr. Halbert said.

200 Coal Orders Daily

Normally 200 coal orders are issued per day to clients. On Thursday, February 8, 450 orders were issued; on Friday, 1,000 coal orders were sent out and Saturday morning found 35 trucks making deliveries from the government fu l yards, which is five times the usual number. Delivery of coal started at 7 a.m. Saturday morning and will continue Saturday afternoon and Sunday until all orders are delivered.

Statistically, during the week-ending, February 3, there were 352 requests for re-opening of cases, and 519 new applications. At present, there are, 13,869 open cases on the emergency relief, a net increase of 4 since the beginning of the year.

Washington Tribune 2-15-34

Explains Work

It is explained that a "re-opening of a case" means that the record of the family or individual is closed when work or income is secured by that family as for example, when wages are paid through the CWA or projects. When this income stops, is insufficient, or other work ceases these families have had to reapply to the District Emergency Relief offices. "Then," he said, "their records are taken from the closed files and placed in the active lists for receiving such relief as their case warrants."

Offices Overtaxed

The pressure of conditions, it is pointed out by officials at District Relief Headquarters has severely over-taxed some of the branch offices. In some sections applicants have had to stand in the cold awaiting their turns since there has not been enough room in the buildings.

Pending legislation is expected to aid many to regain employment under CWA property i is believed but until such funds are available crowded conditions will likely continue.

Negroes on Relief Rolls

Some of the daily papers are playing up the fact that Negroes here form 75 per cent of those on relief rolls.

From personal investigation The Tribune has found that this large number of relief rolls are caused by the fact that whites are given jobs and Negroes are given relief when they apply at stations here.

Washington Tribune
2-23-34

Every attempt was made to get colored persons work under the old C.W.A. but in nearly every instance the effort failed. Even colored mechanics were refused work on the "strictly colored" Banneker Community Recreation Center on Georgia Avenue. Although this building and grounds are being erected for colored, not a single colored bricklayer or skilled mechanic was employed on the job. This fact was brought to the attention of C.W.A. officials and the District commissioners. Nothing has been done relative to it.

The plan here is to give jobs to whites and make Negroes accept charity. The head of the District Repair Shops was relieved of his position and sent to another post when it was brought to the attention of the commissioners that he told a delegation of colored persons that "Niggers were no good as mechanics."

Hundreds of disheartened colored persons have been to relief stations seeking work and turned away because every effort is made to give all available jobs to whites.

Forrester B. Washington director of Negro Work in the F.E.R.A. explains the situation in the following speech at Kansas City last Thursday:

> This is due largely to factors which can be controlled, but which are not in the control of the Negro; for instance, in the South many plantation owners have deliberately placed the Negro on relief rolls during the "lay off" season when plowing, chopping and cotton picking was over, and in the North manufacturing concerns are beginning to force him on relief rolls by instituting color bars, either in the open or under cover when they think public opinion is opposed to the employment of Negro labor, while white men are out of work. Thus, the United States Government has become a subsidizer for Southern and Northern, rural and urban employers of Negro labor during off seasons in industry.
>
> Moreover, organized white labor, directly or indirectly, because of its insistance upon and relative success in dictating that only union members shall be employed under the Recovery program is an accessory in forcing the Negro on relief rolls because so many of the important international crafts unions or locals thereof, have bars against Negro membership.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
NEWS

MAR 30 1934

Leaders Deny Discrimination Against Negroes in Relief Work: Need Is Great

Colored Form 26 Per Cent of Population; Get 70 Per Cent of Relief

By RAUBE WALTERS

Rumors of discrimination in the administration of relief among Washington colored people were denied by three of the best-known authorities on Negro social problems, Canon Anson Phelps Stokes, Dr. Kelly Miller and the Rev. Robert W. Brooks.

These three men say that Negroes are receiving fair treatment, "but, like everyone else, inadequate relief."

It is estimated by relief officials that Negroes here are receiving between 70 and 82 per cent of the present relief, while they form only 26 per cent of the civic population.

However, relief officials are aware that the Negro suffers from a greater insecurity in the economic structure and has less reserves to fall back upon in times such as these.

"The first to be dropped and the last to be taken back," was the way the Rev. Brooks, pastor of the Lincoln Congregational Temple, stated the economic insecurity of his people.

"Personally, I have heard no complaints of discrimination against Negroes in the relief administration.

"I know the extent of the Negro relief problem and feel that the workers are doing the best they can with inadequate funds.

"I feel sure the Negro in Washington will get a fair deal, but until he can find decent employment at reasonable wages, and security, he will always be in a very bad way in times of stress and strain.

CANON STOKES' VIEW

Canon Stokes, of the Washington Cathedral Chapter, said, "All people interested in the Negro should, I think, be grateful for the evident purpose of the Administration to treat him fairly insofar as the actual giving of financial relief is concerned.

"I am convinced from talks with competent relief workers, both white and colored, in Washington, that the Negro is, on the whole, being treated here fairly in matters of emergency relief.

"The principal local difficulties affecting colored people seeking relief seem to me threefold:

"1. That the unemployed skilled Negro has a particularly hard time in finding work.

"2. That the supervisor of the Emergency Relief Division, who has shown both competence and a fine spirit in his work, is hampered by inadequate funds as far as securing competent trained workers is concerned. This affects white and colored alike.

"3. That the Negro who is given money for rent is frequently unable

Rev. Brooks, Canon Stokes and Dr. Miller Speak on Vital Subject

to get as good accommodations for his money as the white man."

Relief workers admit the problem of rentals among Negroes is a big one.

TO WORK OR NOT?

Dr. Kelly Miller, professor of sociology at Howard University and for over half a century a leading crusader for his race, admits the enormity of the problem and the inadequacy of funds in the hands of relief officials.

Laying aside a gardening implement, he spoke of the problem that relief officials admit worries them a good deal—the danger of pauperizing clients.

"I offered a man a job working in my garden today," said Dr. Miller. "He was too busy debating whether to take a makeshift job or continue receiving $15 a month relief.

"Undoubtedly he needs the relief, but I told him to take any job and be his own man. He had other things to consider, and told me he'd come to work tomorrow. I need a man today. It's a difficult job to decide when relief is really helping a man and when it's hurting him.

NEED IS DESPERATE

"Of course, in the majority of the cases the relief is desperately needed and its failure would wreck the lives of my people. And in most casess it only provides a margin of non-starvation.

"I know Mr. Halbert and I trust him. I'm sure he isn't allowing discrimination to creep into relief as it has crept into the CWA administration. In fact, I know he hasn't. Such complaints arise from people who aren't aware that his real trouble is he doesn't have it to do with."

A Costly "New Deal"

Washington Tribune
5-5-34
Washington, D.C.

When the House of Representatives finally passed the Alley Eliminations Bill there was borne to the alley-dwellers of Washington, most of whom are colored, a distinct financial burden.

The bill requires that all alley dwellings in the District are to be purchased at a price not exceeding 30 per cent of their assessed value, torn down and the sites converted into parks, playgrounds or garages.

It is estimated that 10,000 alley-residents will be required to seek residences on streets as one of the direct results of this legislation.

As has been pointed out by this paper before, these alley-dwellers have not made alleys their home as a matter of choice, but as a matter of necessity. High rents on "through streets" have driven most of them into their off-street refuges. It does not seem altogether consistent, then, that such law will benefit them—especially at a time when there is universal economic strain.

It was hoped that this legislation would also grant an appropriation to provide low-rent housing units for these unfortunate people who are now thrown out of their humble homes. It didn't.

The consequent tossing of these unfortunate people into the laps of, and at the mercy of, Washington's land barons, compels The Tribune to accept this latest development as but another victory for the well-to-do and the rich—an offer at the altar of sacrifice, so to speak.

NEW SETTLEMENT HOUSE TO OPEN

Tribune
7-26-34
Washington, D.C.

Wilkinson Elected President of Unit Which Will Open Sept. 1

A new settlement house to be known as the Northwest Settlement House, located [illegible] Sixth and N Sts. Northwest, will be formally opened on September 1, according to announcement made this week. Garnet C. Wilkinson, assistant superintendent of schools, has been elected president of the new unit. The institution, which is sponsored by the International Committee of Social Agencies, and the Tuesday Evening Club, will serve as a teaching clinic for students at the Miner Teachers' College.

G. C. Wilkinson

Other officers chosen were: I. A. Letcher, vice president; Judge James A. Cobb, treasurer; Miss Lucy D. Slowe, secretary. The members of the board of directors are: Mrs. William Adams Slade, Mrs. John Jay O'Connor, Mrs. E. C. Jackson, Miss Mary Thompson, the Rev. A. F. Elms, Dwight O. W. Holmes, George E. C. Hayes, Miss Fay Bentley, the Rev. Dr. Paul Furbey, Dr. Ferdinand D. Whitby, Mrs. Marion D. Butler, Judge Jas. A. Cobb, Mrs. Letcher, Miss Margaret Jones, Dr. Dudley Willard and Captain Rhoda Milliken.

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The large number of Negroes on relief is no longer news to us here in Washington.

and government [illegible] helps it would solve the relief problem here overnight as far as colored persons are concerned.

Every form of bar[illegible] put up to keep Negroes out of jobs, even after they have qualified through Civil Service examination. So long as such unfair tactics are used the relief problem will remain with us. Pointing it out is not enough, the fair and just thing to do

WASHINGTON, D. C.
NEWS

MAR 30 1934

Leaders Deny Discrimination Against Negroes in Relief Work: Need Is Great

Colored Form 26 Per Cent of Population; Get 70 Per Cent of Relief

By RAUBE WALTERS

Rumors of discrimination in the administration of relief among Washington colored people were denied by three of the best-known authorities on Negro social problems, Canon Anson Phelps Stokes, Dr. Kelly Miller and the Rev. Robert W. Brooks.

These three men say that Negroes are receiving fair treatment, "but, like everyone else, inadequate relief."

It is estimated by relief officials that Negroes here are receiving between 70 and 82 per cent of the present relief, while they form only 26 per cent of the civic population.

However, relief officials are aware that the Negro suffers from a greater insecurity in the economic structure and has less reserves to fall back upon in times such as these.

"The first to be dropped and the last to be taken back," was the way the Rev. Brooks, pastor of the Lincoln Congregational Temple, stated the economic insecurity of his people.

"Personally, I have heard no complaints of discrimination against Negroes in the relief administration.

"I know the extent of the Negro relief problem and feel that the workers are doing the best they can with inadequate funds.

"I feel sure the Negro in Washington will get a fair deal, but until he can find decent employment at reasonable wages, and security, he will always be in a very bad way in times of stress and strain.

CANON STOKES' VIEW

Canon Stokes, of the Washington Cathedral Chapter, said, "All people interested in the Negro should, I think, be grateful for the evident purpose of the Administration to treat him fairly insofar as the actual giving of financial relief is concerned.

"I am convinced from talks with competent relief workers, both white and colored, in Washington, that the Negro is, on the whole, being treated here fairly in matters of emergency relief.

"The principal local difficulties affecting colored people seeking relief seem to me threefold:

"1. That the unemployed skilled Negro has a particularly hard time in finding work.

"2. That the supervisor of the Emergency Relief Division, who has shown both competence and a fine spirit in his work, is hampered by inadequate funds as far as securing competent trained workers is concerned. This affects white and colored alike.

"3. That the Negro who is given money for rent is frequently unable

Rev. Brooks, Canon Stokes and Dr. Miller Speak on Vital Subject

to get as good accommodations for his money as the white man."

Relief workers admit the problem of rentals among Negroes is a big one.

TO WORK OR NOT?

Dr. Kelly Miller, professor of sociology at Howard University and for over half a century a leading crusader for his race, admits the enormity of the problem and the inadequacy of funds in the hands of relief officials.

Laying aside a gardening implement, he spoke of the problem that relief officials admit worries them a good deal—the danger of pauperizing clients.

"I offered a man a job working in my garden today," said Dr. Miller. "He was too busy debating whether to take a makeshift job or continue receiving $15 a month relief.

"Undoubtedly he needs the relief, but I told him to take any job and be his own man. He had other things to consider, and told me he'd come to work tomorrow. I need a man today. It's a difficult job to decide when relief is really helping a man and when it's hurting him.

NEED IS DESPERATE

"Of course, in the majority of the cases the relief is desperately needed and its failure would wreck the lives of my people. And in most casess it only provides a margin of non-starvation.

"I know Mr. Halbert and I trust him. I'm sure he isn't allowing discrimination to creep into relief as it has crept into the CWA administration. In fact, I know he hasn't. Such complaints arise from people who aren't aware that his real trouble is he doesn't have it to do with."

A Costly "New Deal"

Washington Tribune

When the House of Representatives finally passed the Alley Eliminations Bill there was borne to the alley-dwellers of Washington, most of whom are colored, a distinct financial burden.

The bill requires that all alley dwellings in the District are to be purchased at a price not exceeding 30 per cent of their assessed value, torn down and the sites converted into parks, playgrounds or garages.

It is estimated that 10,000 alley-residents will be required to seek residences on streets as one of the direct results of this legislation.

As has been pointed out by this paper before, these alley-dwellers have not made alleys their home as a matter of choice, but as a matter of necessity. High rents on "through streets" have driven most of them into their off-street refuges. It does not seem altogether consistent, then, that such law will benefit them—especially at a time when there is universal economic strain.

It was hoped that this legislation would also grant an appropriation to provide low-rent housing units for these unfortunate people who are now thrown out of their humble homes. It didn't.

The consequent tossing of these unfortunate people into the laps of, and at the mercy of, Washington's land barons, compels The Tribune to accept this latest development as but another victory for the well-to-do and the rich—an offer at the altar of sacrifice, so to speak.

NEW SETTLEMENT HOUSE TO OPEN

Tribune 7-26-34

Wilkinson Elected President of Unit Which Will Open Sept. 1

Washington, D.C.

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Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

Connecticut.

HARTFORD, CONN.
COURANT
JUN 26 1934

The Slum Survey Report

The report of the slum clearance study committee of the Department of Health is now in the hands of the Mayor's committee on housing and of the members of the Common Council. The report is mild in tone and free from complicated statistics. In addition to specific information concerning housing conditions in Hartford, it includes information relating to federal and state legislation, the experience of other American and foreign cities and the general problems and theories of rehousing. It presents without sensationalism the bad conditions existing in various blighted areas in Hartford and recommends action directed toward bringing conditions in four or perhaps six neighborhoods up to minimum standards conducive to the raising of healthy and law-abiding citizens.

The U-shaped "slum area" of Hartford has its basis on the river front with the arms extending toward the west, one to the north of the central business area and the other to the south. To the north, one section, bounded by Pavilion and Blake Streets, Windsor Street, Canton Street and Main Street, is the home of 1474 Negroes and 454 white persons. The survey recommends clearance or progressive demolition of the worst tenements in this section and recognizes that Hartford faces the problem of providing new housing for at least five hundred Negro families. Along the river front between the Connecticut Bridge and the mouth of the Park River are mixed conditions of industry and tenements. For this district the recommendation is clearance only, bearing in mind that the area would provide for a short drive and parkway connecting Colt and Riverside Parks and that some property might be zoned for future high-class apartments. This district has too high potentialities for future use under a city plan to be given over to low-cost housing projects. The choice for that purpose falls on that neighborhood of tenements and shops, lying south of the Park River and east of Main Street, next door to the Municipal Building. Demolition would make possible the widening of Sheldon Street, the beautification of the river banks as a park and the rehousing of a homogeneous group of families of Polish and Lithuanian descent. The report recommends application for federal funds for a low-cost housing project on this site, providing that the land may be obtained at a reasonable price. It has named two alternate sites, one west of the first choice across Main Street and the other between Pope Park and the railroad tracks south of Capitol Avenue.

The assembly of sites is, of course, one of the first practical problems to be attacked. It immediately raises the question of legal powers of eminent domain, condemnation and demolition and of tax adjustment on a basis of functional use and actual earning capacity of property. If it is decided that the municipality should make application for a federal grant, it will evidently entail new powers from the State permitting the city to undertake its part in the necessary financing.

The first step toward continuing the work of slum clearance in Hartford has already been taken by the Mayor's housing committee by its request that FERA provide workers to obtain from the assessor's office the assessment records of parcels of land within the area under special study. This information is essential to show the relation of tax paid to income derived from the property, the temporary loss of tax income due to demolition, and to indicate costs of compensation to property owners under present laws governing eminent domain, as well as to give insight into the relation of present assessments to actual and potential earning capacity of the property.

As the report wisely suggests, the problem of bringing living conditions up to minimum standards should be approached on the basis of a well-studied, long-time city plan and should be pursued without misgivings as to the value to all the people of Hartford of ridding the city of its worst slums.

Florida

Social Conditions, Improvement of.-1934

TAMPA, FLA.
TRIBUNE

JUN 13 1934

For Negro Citizens

Negro citizens of Tampa are being shown the way to more thoughtful and constructive lives through the activities of the Urban League. The League, as one phase of its community work, is holding this week a "Negro Labor Educational Institute," with the cooperation of the Community Council and the Extension Department of the University of Florida.

Speakers have been obtained and addresses are to be followd by discussion. Subjects to be handled are of such serious import as "The Power of the Consumer in the Reconstruction Era," which is the topic for Friday night.

The institute program promises both inspirational and educational results. The Urgan League is a great power for good among the negro citizens of Tampa.

Tampa, Fla., Times
August 2, 1934

NEGRO HOUSING SURVEY STARTS

Investigation Conducted in Conjunction With FERA Activities

Work got under way today on Tampa's negro housing survey under the direction of J. W. Veal, supervisor, who said initial steps will be taken in the section extending from Morgan to Thirteenth St., adjoining Ybor City, and the Belmont Heights sections. These districts, according to Veal, form the most congested sections of the City.

Other negro districts will be included in the survey.

The survey is being conducted in co-operation with FERA authorities and the City Health Department and funds will be asked from the Federal Housing Commission to improve the most congested areas.

"It seems the entire negro belt is bad," said Veal at a meeting of the Tampa Housing Board at the Chamber of Commerce. "There are some good spots but they are so overshadowed by the poor that the negro quarters of Tampa, as a whole, constitute extremely unhealthful conditions. In every district there are many evidences of things tending to degenerate the negro."

R. O. Edwards, of Jacksonville, who recently co-operated in a similar survey in that city, said the local study would include a survey of crime, fire hazards, mortality and juvenile crime.

He cited many bad influences and conditions brought to light in the Jacksonville survey. He brought out the fact that crime and disease spring from congested sections as a rule and proved this by the fact that in one Jacksonville district juvenile crime showed a steady decrease following the construction of adequate recreational grounds for children.

Present at the meeting yesterday were Chairman Mackler, George Bergen, of the Chamber of Commerce; Frank Traynor, F. O. Adams and J. G. Moore, executive of the Tampa FERA and member of the committee.

Representing the negro committee of the local Housing Board were Rev. M. D. Potter, Rev. W. M. Davis and C. T. Greene, former secretary of the Tampa Urban League.

MIAMI, FLA.
HERALD

SEP 9 1934

SOMETHING MUST BE DONE

THE HERALD has had no thought of placing pleasant reading before its readers in its campaign to secure some action that will wipe out Miami's plague spot.

It has sought to learn the exact facts as to conditions in the colored portion of the city and lay them before the public so clearly and so forcibly as to arouse a feeling everywhere that the intolerable conditions shall be abolished and that decent accommodations and fair surroundings shall be afforded the under-priviledged, hard-working colored population.

Talbott Wagg, architect of the housing division of the public works administration, made something of a survey of conditions in colored town, and has given it as his opinion that the Miami negro section "is the most congested slum district that I know of in the country, and that takes into consideration my knowledge of slum conditions in quite a few cities."

Loyal Miamians have always been rather proud of the beauty, cleanliness and healthfulness of their city. But when giving voice to their pleasure in Miami, they wisely ignore the fact that close to the center of the city, surrounded by many dwellings and business houses there is a pesthole that has now been condemned by an expert as one of the worst, if not the worst, slums in the country.

Miami's pride will receive a severe check when it becomes known generally that the negro population of the city, many thousands of them, are housed in rotten, insanitary, unsafe dwellings entirely unfit for human habitation.

But the blow to our pride is the least of the difficulty. The investigation by The Herald in co-operation with the health department discloses a condition in colored town that is an intolerable menace to the whole community, white and black.

The people in colored town are herded together in small houses at extremely close quarters. There is a lack of decent sanitary arrangements; filth is allowed to accumulate in and around dwellings; there is very little, if any, attention paid to the collection of garbage; plumbing, what there is of it, is deficient; open, outdoor toilets are jammed up close to living quarters; lots are uncared for; streets are seldom swept, and the children must find such playground amid all this indescribable litter, dirt and filth. It causes crime.

Insanitary conditions create disease. Disease once becoming epidemic in colored town in conditions where diseases thrive, can not be confined to that portion of the city. The rest of the city's population, those who live in good houses amid sanitary surroundings cannot escape the consequences of neglecting colored town.

The public is becoming aroused as to this slum menace and will eventually take steps to eradicate a deplorable pesthole and find better living conditions for Miami's colored people.

Florida

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
February 16. 1934

NEW NEGRO AMUSEMENT CENTER OPENS TONIGHT

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The warehouse has been remodeled and those sponsoring the new amusement center for negroes say it will be operated under strict supervision. In charge will be Robert L. Anderson, who has been in the employ of the Thorne family, local hotel operators, for the last 15 years; Hosea Johnson, with various hotels in the city for the last 10 years and now employed by the Royal Palm hotel; James Gibson, with the Suwannee hotel for the last eight or 10 years, and Otis Lamb, with Weaver brothers for many years and now operating his own rooming house.

SANFORD, FLA.
HERALD
MAR 24 1934

Florida Relief Load

It is not particularly gratifying to believers in a Future Florida, nor to those who think that conditions have already markedly improved in this state, but it is nevertheless a fact that there were more unemployment and relief cases, in proportion to population in Florida, than in any other state in the union at the time the Unemployment Relief census was taken last Fall.

This situation is discussed at some length in the current issue of the Florida Municipal Record which points out that 26 percent, or more than one out of every four families in Florida, was receiving relief from public funds at the time the census was taken. Only two states, South Carolina and West Virginia, even approached this figure, and the average relief load for all states was ten percent.

"Negro families constituted almost 47 percent of the total number of families receiving relief in the state, while the number of negro families in Florida made up only 29 percent of the total when the population census was taken in 1930," the Record says. "It was pointed out that these figures do not indicate that negro families were receiving relief out of proportion to their needs, but rather that the hardships due to unemployment have fallen with particular severity upon the colored race.

"Children under the age of 16, numbering 140,000, made up 39 percent of all the persons in families receiving relief, and more than one-third of these children were of pre-school age. The population census showed that children of these ages represented 32 percent of the population in 1930.

"Tables giving details of the preliminary tabulations of the Unemployment Relief Census are shown on this page. In the percentage table, the total for all ages (100 percent) represents the total number of persons for which detailed age information was reported, and consequently does not include the 143 persons whose ages are not known."

TABLE SHOWING PERSONS IN FLORIDA RELIEF FAMILIES, BY AGE, COLOR AND SEX

Age	ALL CLASSES Total	Male	Female	WHITE Male	Female	NEGRO Male	F'M'le
All ages	361,520	184,127	177,393	107,742	101,543	76,335	75,807
Under 1 year	7,328	3,721	3,517	2,529	2,326	1,190	1,190
1 to 5 years	41,776	21,287	20,489	13,091	12,352	8,193	8,131
6 to 13 years	75,145	37,661	37,484	22,753	22,172	14,900	15,305
14 to 15 years	15,841	7,794	8,047	4,830	4,764	2,964	3,281
16 to 17 years	15,815	7,773	8,042	4,712	4,762	3,057	3,277
18 to 24 years	48,775	24,158	24,617	13,866	13,609	10,285	11,002
25 to 34 years	51,814	25,335	26,479	13,399	13,437	11,924	13,036
35 to 44 years	42,558	20,763	21,795	11,237	11,772	9,519	10,018
45 to 54 years	33,307	18,170	15,137	10,258	8,799	7,908	6,335
55 to 64 years	18,464	11,067	7,397	6,937	4,877	4,129	2,519
Over 65 years	10,644	6,327	4,317	4,093	2,634	2,232	1,680
Unknown	143	71	72	37	39	34	33

Tallahassee, Fla. Democrat
April 29, 1934

NEGRO WELFARE WORKERS MEET

In order to further negro relief work in th county and to enlarge the facilities of the negro old people's home here, a meeting of the officials and leaders of the Douglas Relief league, negro welfare association, was held during the past week.

The meeting was called by Walter Moore, president of the Leon County Welfare association, of which the Douglas Relief league is an auxiliary. Moore talked to the group.

Attending the session were a number of white persons and leaders in th negro welfare program, Dr. J. R. E. Lee, president of A. and M. college; B. L. Perry, dean of the college; Dr. L. H B. Scote, physician and surgeon at the A. and M. college sanitarium; J. G. Riley, president, and S. H. Coleman, secretary, of the Douglas Relief league; Nurse McGreen of the Leon county health unit; C. P. Allen, J. H. Jones, and W. R. Akery, ministers; Dr. A. O. Campbell, Dr. J. R. Bates; and E. A. Pottsdamer.

The negroes of Tallahassee have perfected a worth while relief organization, Moore said, and are tendering a great deal of financial and other assistance in the county-wide plan as represented in the welfare group.

May 27, 1934
SUNDAY, MAY 27, 1934

"METHODIST TOWN"

A READER who has been greatly interested in The Times' pleas for the elimination of the negro quarters popularly known as "Methodist Town," writes for a comprehensive description of the area and review of the opportunities and possibilities of its correction, with which request it is a pleasure to comply.

When the railroad came in 1888 it found a struggling group of buildings, including a store and so forth at what is now Gentral avenue and Ninth street. The new town began building down along the bay, and as it grew, there, quite naturally the old shacks at Ninth street became left to the negroes, and from them grew the Methodist Town of today.

Ninth street today is St. Petersburg's longest built-up business thoroughfare, and the intersection of Central avenue and Ninth in a few years will be the city's business center.

Beginning at Second avenue north, two very short blocks from Central and extending to Fifth avenue north, and at the alley west of Ninth street and extending to Twelfth street is an area of twelve small blocks comprising about 50 acres of land. Here are what is left of those original negro shacks, and a perfect jam of others that have been built since.

The entire locality is high; and as the center of St. Petersburg's population is at the intersection of First avenue north and sixteenth street this 50-acre negro slum occupies a very fine site in the city's very center—a situation and condition that should be considered intolerable in a city of St. Petersburg's class, and allowed to exist no longer than it would take to correct it—and the entire city should be determined on the correction.

And the correction, while an enterprise of considerable proportions would face no insurperable objections at all.

Lying between Central and Tangerine avenues, south of and along the Seaboard Air Line railroad, and along Sixteenth and Twenty-second streets and extending westward, is a comparatively open area, already given over to negro business and dwellings, well fitted for those purposes and for no other, and large enough to accommodate all the colored population St. Petersburg now has or is likely to have. Decent homes could be built in that section for the negroes of "Methodist Town" and they could be moved to them.

That would give those people, who are good citizens and worthy of every decent consideration, a disgraceful and That would be the first public benefit in the That would be the elimination of a disgraceful and second, and the most important, the square deal they have never had yet. tion, the square deal they have never had yet. That would be the elimination of a disgraceful and dangerous slum from the heart of the city. And the third, also of a more material nature would

Florida

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

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The entire locality is high; and as the center of St. Petersburg's population is at the intersection of First avenue north and sixteenth street this 50-acre negro slum occupies a very fine site in the city's very center—a situation and condition that should be considered intolerable in a city of St. Petersburg's class, and allowed to exist no longer than it would take to correct it—and the entire city should be determined on the correction.

And the correction, while an enterprise of considerable proportions would face no insurperable objections at all.

Lying between Central and Tangerine avenues, south of and along the Seaboard Air Line railroad, and along Sixteenth and Twenty-second streets and extending westward, is a comparatively open area, already given over to negro business and dwellings, well fitted for those purposes and for no other, and large enough to accommodate all the colored population St. Petersburg now has or is likely to have. Decent homes could be built in that section for the negroes of "Methodist Town" and they could be moved to them.

That would give those people, who are good citizens and worthy of every decent consideration, the square deal they have never had yet. That would be the first public benefit in the way of homes. The second, and the most important, a disgraceful and unsightly part of the city. And material nature would

be making this region now known as "Methodist Town" for negroes, available for whatever kind of development should be determined. The superb location would make it immensely valuable for any purpose—a public park, a public recreation park, an athletic field, or commercial and residential development.

The Times has not been convinced that this project could not be put through with government aid from one or perhaps more of those various recovery bureaus as so many others have been carried out and are being carried out everywhere else in the land—if a sufficiently determined effort were made.

Discussing the making of new F. E. R. A. plans in Florida the other day Julius F. Stone, state administrator, said:

> "The new plan will include the cleaning up and landscaping of waste areas, the demolition of disreputable edifices, the reconditioning of structures of historical and architectural value which have fallen into decay, and the planting of shrubs and flowers along highways, in public parks and on private property. In short, no possible means by which the physical attractiveness of the state may be enhanced will be overlooked."

That would seem to cover the case of St. Petersburg's negro slum in the heart of the city. But there are still other government bureaus, administrations and funds for the public betterment. As the Sentinel says of the needs of Orlando:

> What we need is a consolidated plan of all our projects, a unified civic mind, in perfect harmony.

The Times has contended for decades that the way to build St. Petersburg into the "largest tourist city is to prepare and adopt a consolidated plan for all the basic needs of such a city—and then plug everlastingly for it.

MIAMI, FLA.
HERALD

SEP 16 1934

EXPENSIVE

AN expert city planner and designer of London, Sir Raymond Unwin, says that it is far less expensive to replace slum areas with clean, healthful living quarters than to run up staggering police, fire and sanitation costs.

It goes without further argument that an epidemic of any disease originating in any manner is a costly expense to the afflicted community, costly in suffering, in money and in lives.

Constructed and located as are the houses that compose Miami's disgraceful slums, they are a threatening fire hazard and it seems that only by the wonderful care of a kindly Providence has there been no fire in that section which if one gains headway will, without a doubt, destroy many dwellings and business plants and bring death to scores of colored people now living in that section of the city.

Miami's colored town is composed of negroes from many countries outside the United States. This mixture of classes closely herded together inevitably leads to neighborhood controversies and conflicts of a more or less serious nature. To preserve the peace and protect property require the constant services of law enforcement officers.

And that is the situation faced by Miami. An epidemic would be expensive; a fire in colored town would be costly and the maintenance of extra police officers in the section is a drag on the treasury.

The one way to avoid all this is to clean up colored town; demolish every unsafe and insanitary building; connect every house, however small, with city water and sewers; collect garbage regularly and frequently and jail every house owner or renter who neglects to do his part in keeping his premises clean

And then, as soon as it may be practicable, replace all houses in what is now known as the slums by modern dwellings of proper size and with all conveniences that decency of living requires.

If that can be accomplished this city will save in lives, in money and in reputation.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
ADVERTISER

FEB 25 1934

The Self-Liquidating Federal Housing Plan And Its Vast Social Implications Explained

By WILLIAM NICROSI

In 1919 the Austrians, bankrupt and defeated in war, found their city of Vienna pauperized and crowded with a cross-current of their people, many of them rurals driven to the city through want. The people were living in hovels, overcrowded quarters, and out of work. The necessity for housing was apparent and the problem was solved by using its unemployed in labor for their own housing. As a result, an uplift was started from necessity, which has not only spread over continental Europe and England, but has been brought to our United States by the depression. When the depression first started, a group of prominent men in New York instigated and financed a survey for establishing the best procedure for overcoming the depression.

They arrived at the conclusion that the road to recovery was by means of a construction program that would provide employment and increase purchasing power. They found, however, that office buildings, high-price apartments, luxurious hotels and schools had been overdone. They could derive little comfort in contemplating such additional construction, and a task of great social importance, which was neglected in good times, was the only promising field of endeavor in bad times—LOW COST HOUSING.

As a result, a field for new building that had never before created any interest in operators, architects and builders, sprung up. In attaining the lowest possible rentals that would be commensurate with advanced standards of site and building construction, it was found that the old commercial set-up for taxes, interest, commissions, and profits would make the projects prohibitive in cost. The result would be that the type of tenant desired to be benefited would not have the earning capacity to pay rent based on commercial enterprise. This took the project out of the hands of private capital, and, when the Emergency Relief and Construction Act of 1932 was being drafted, the following provisions were made:

"The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized and empowered to make loans to corporations formed wholly for the purpose of providing housing for families of low income, or for reconstruction of slum areas, which are regulated by State or Municipal law as to rents, charges, capital structure, rate of return, and areas and methods of operation, to aid on financing projects undertaken by such corporations which are self-liquidating in character."

* * * *

PREVIOUS EXPERIMENTS

New York and several other States made provisions in their housing laws for limited dividend housing. This meant that a housing corporation that would limit its rent per room per month in certain areas to figures established by the State Housing Commission would receive the benefits of tax exemptions. In loaning money under the original plan the RFC required that one-third of the capital set-up be local or private money. Under these rules and regulations limited housing projects have been developed in New York City.

These new projects were able to give sanitary, fire-proof, modern and healthy housing for $14 per room per month on Manhattan Island. The commercial rate for unsanitary, undesirable and old-type tenement housing similarly located is $20 to $25 per room per month. These housing laws as to tax exemptions and limited dividends were enacted by New York State under the sponsorship of the then State Senator Robert Wagner and approved by the then Governor Roosevelt.

Similar projects were set up in Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit and Boston. With the crisis of the bank holiday and the new Roosevelt government of last Spring, there was enacted by our Congress a bill introduced by the now U. S. Senator Robert Wagner of New York and sponsored by the now President Roosevelt—the PWA.

Of this appropriation of over $3,000,000,000, $100,000,000 was allotted to the Federal Emergency Housing Corporation for housing. This corporation was created by the authority of the Public Works Administration and the incorporators were Secretaries Ickes and Perkins and Mr. Robert D. Kohn, Director of Housing for the Administration. This hundred million dollars is not the sole source of capital for the housing corporation, but PWA funds that were allocated to the various States, but not all accepted, have the remaining balances available for loans through the housing corporation.

The Federal Housing Corporation in its original plan required that 15 per cent of the cost of the project be furnished locally, and the corporation would loan to individuals or municipalities or semi-public corporations such as Chambers of Commerce, the remaining 85 per cent for housing projects that came within their requirements. However, certain private individuals with the spirit of promotion seized immediately the opportunity to exploit values, by double sales, by letting contracts to their own contractors at excessive figures and the result was that private individuals owned 15 per cent of the capital structure without actually putting up any of the money.

As a result the FHC now insists that they finance the project 100 per cent and it must have municipal sponsorship. Under this arrangement amortization must be accomplished in 35 years for fireproof construction and the constant factor of 1.5 per cent of the principal must be annually applied to this end. The annual interest is four per cent. The project pays no ad valorem taxes because of its Federal ownership. However, a charge for municipal service such as fire and police protection, sanitation and schooling for the number of occupants of the project is a set annual debit against its operation. There are also the various charges for administration, upkeeps, insurance and loss in rent to be made.

In States like New York where there is a Housing Commission the complete administration is conducted by this agency, but where no provisions are made by the State, as in Alabama, then the FHC will undertake the project under their own management but with supervision of a local sponsoring board. It must have enthusiastic civic support. This local board serves without remuneration and must set up itself to start the project. It makes rules and regulations for its own conduct and perpetuation. It must make a study of local conditions and apply the general requirements of modern housing to them. It must establish a maximum rent per room based on the earning capacity of the prospective tenants. This rent must be sufficient to take care of all of the calculated charges, and care must be exercised by the board in selection of the site so that the land cost shall not be excessive and the buildings correspondingly designed. The board selects the architect and arranges ways and means for the construction of the building and the purchasing of the location. It must also establish rules and regulations for the occupants, describe what type of citizens are to be favored with the occupancy and exert a general supervision of the complete project

* * * *

REQUIREMENTS

The project must be located in a neighborhood zoned 100 per cent for negroes, must have trunk line sewerage, school facilities, near negro amusement centers and shopping districts and be convenient to their work. Street car transportation must be available. It must not be located in an undesirable and unhealthful neighborhood. Only 20 per cent of the land may be covered by buildings, and each unit must have cross-ventilation. Buildings will be so designed that they are self-service and free of janitor service. Opportunities for washing of clothes must be had. Presumably an equal number of occupied hovels must be destroyed, and cost of the destruction must be figured in the original cost of the project. The opportunity for city planning here becomes available in getting rid of Negro houses in white neighborhoods.

* * * *

ADVANTAGES

When you raise the lowest levels of humanity you raise all levels above them. Sanitation, improved health conditions for all, reduction of crime and the opportunity for sociologic work. Opposition can be based only on misunderstanding and error. BEAR IN MIND THAT BECAUSE OF AMORTIZATION THE NEGRO HIMSELF PAYS FOR ALL OF THESE CHANGES WHICH ARE BENEFICIAL TO ALL THE CITY AND HE IS SIMPLY USING THE FEDERAL CREDIT TO ACCOMPLISH THESE THINGS FOR US.

This project plays an insignificant role in competition with commercial projects when confronted with comparative figures. There are approximately 30,000 Negroes within the police jurisdiction of Montgomery, and when we propose 350 units and also remove a corresponding number of hovels, the proposition of increased housing is not discernible. All local property will enjoy an increase in value because of the additional intrinsic wealth added to the community.

Income of city government will be increased because of municipal charges set up in the project and crime and pauperism of the hovel will be reduced. Later, when completely paid for, it will be a source of revenue for municipal projects, conceivably for the Negro public school system, and the Negro will have paid for it. There are figures established by survey of the FHC to show that it costs cities and States ten times the taxes collected from hovels to maintain indigents and criminals developed in them. Since the project amortizes itself with interest, it is not a drain on the U. S. Treasury.

* * * *

LET THE SOUTH KEEP STEP

The South must keep step with the new planned economy of the nation if we are to maintain our position. If we permit other cities to have these developments and we go without them, other cities will attract the better element of Negroes and enjoy the economical benefits of higher type labor, and we will get the lowest order of human beings in their places.

Surely, in depressed times as these we cannot object to the spending of $1,000,000 in our midst on such a self-liquidating project. When our own U. S. Government proposes to spend a million in these depressed times on a development and leave the earnings here, giving the ultimate liquidation to the city, can anyone object?

It is not a question of whether we should have the development or not: the question is "CAN WE GET IT?" Let us not isolate ourselves.

A Challenge to the U. S.

The administration's new housing act is a challenge to what has come to be the new American spirit of self-help through civic co-operation.

Under this plan for rehousing the nation's millions the government abandons all notion of subsidizing private industry. It will not pour billions of public credit into building. It will, however, make it easier for the billions of private dollars now rusting in the banks to go to work.

The new measure, no less than National Industrial Recovery Act, is typically Roosevelt ian. Mr. Harold J. Laski, in describing the president's conception of the state says: "For him the power of the state remains that of the reserve organizer who defines the rules, not the immediate agent who operates the process." Under the housing

act the government does just this.

By insuring private home mortgages for renovating and rebuilding; setting standards for a new type long term, amortized, cheap interest home mortgage; providing mortgage money in high interest rate regions through national mortgage associations; insuring the savings of building and loan associations; the government proposes to attract capital into the mortgage market. While doing this it gives full play also to the old-fashioned virtues of thrift and personal initiative.

The new measure will live up to the hopes of its sponsors only if loaning agencies and home owners co-operate to make it work. This will require a revival of the same civic enthusiasm that marked the early days of the Blue Eagle's flight.

The time for a great rehousing movement is here. Home building is five years under normal. Families are living "double," and millions are in homes unfit for Americans. The consumption goods industry is picking up. People are returning to the cities. The marriage rate is going up. Recovery lags only in the heavy industries. Rehousing seems to be the next new deal play.

URBAN LEAGUE WEEKLY BULLETIN

A Brief History of Model Housing for Negroes.

(Data compiled by Reginald A. Johnson.)

(Continued from last week.)

For the past several years up to the time the government began its program of slum clearance, there have been a number of sporadic attempts to improve negro housing in several of our larger cities. Very few of these efforts materialized in any large program of widespread community influence. A number of these housing programs consisted of new sections or additions, or slum clearance for park purposes. Some of the housing projects themselves consisted of individual family unit structures which were either rented or sold without a corporate fatherly body to direct the entire project and give it a program of community and social service planning.

The destruction of the famous Lung Block in Baltimore, where an area of the city with a high tuberculosis death rate was destroyed and replaced with a park, and the beautiful homes and well-paved streets in Atlanta that were started by Herman E. Perry in a sub-division opened in 1923, are examples of some of the earlier types of housing projects. In the Perry project, a subdivision was opened in the west side of Atlanta originally containing 211 acres. A number of houses were built in the area as well as many lots sold to individual buyers.

In Newark, N. J., the Prudential Life Insurance Company has planned a development of model apartments for negroes in the third ward. The project became involved in litigations as to the right of the city to purchase and maintain as public open space some of the unbuilt-upon land in connection with the project. Its right to do so has been upheld by the highest court of New Jersey. However, just recently a large housing unit has been completed and another is under construction.

In many small cities housing projects have been discussed by interracial committees and other groups of leading citizens, but nothing definite has resulted. In Wilmington, Del., where the housing problems of negroes have been most outstanding since the war, the Citizens Housing Corporation has been trying to secure modern homes for negroes and do away with many shacks that have been rented to the group.

In Little Rock, Ark., a new development called Booker Terrace, has been developed since 1925. The changes that have taken place since the migration indicate that, except for a few exclusive white suburban neighborhoods, for the most part all types of real estate are being opened to negroes. In most neighborhoods both colored and white people reside, sometimes on opposite sides of the streets, sometimes side by side. One real estate operator suggests that "the depression has forced the lowering of real estate and the opening up of desirable property to prospective negro landowners." Servant quarters are disappearing, though there have been no apartment houses built. There is an increasing tendency toward home ownership among negroes. In many cases people took on the responsibility of home ownership without adequate incomes, with the result that there have been many losses of home partially paid for during the past two or three years.

The most outstanding change is recorded in Philadelphia, where the negro population has gained in increasing numbers in nine additional wards since the time of the Woofter study. There have been a few new homes constructed in some sections. Meanwhile, the old neighborhoods have continued to deteriorate, and families desiring better living conditions have been forced to seek them in new areas slowly coming into the hands of negro tenants. There have been but few changes in north and south Philadelphia, while West Philadelphia and Germantown have been more progressive in that there have been several apartment houses and rows of homes built recently for colored people. According to the Armstrong Association of Philadelphia, the following projects have been developed in Philadelphia since 1928:

"In Germantown, the Montana Gardens apartments are most comfortable with modern heating and refrigeration systems. There are 43 apartments of the two-and-three-room types. They rent for $8 and $11 per week.

"The Booker T. Washington apartments are located in West Philadelphia at 761 North Forty-seventh street. There are 268 rooms in the three units of the building. The apartments consist of from one to four rooms and their rental varies from $25 to $52.

"230 East Sharpnack street: 8 modern apartments. Heating, refrigeration systems, Murphy beds. Rentals $35 to $40 per month.

Other accommodations built for negro renters are located as follows:

"A complete modern block formed by Forty-seventh, Olive, Forty-eighth and Aspen streets. The homes are of the six-room type, with kitchen and bath, laundry equipment in the basement. Rental average $40 per month.

"Eighteen houses on one side of the 4800 block of Brown street with four more of the same construction extending around the corner on Forty-ninth street. Each with eight modern rooms and renting for $45 to $50 per month.

"Six homes in the 300 block of East Upsal street, Germantown; seven modern rooms and garage that rent for $45 per month."

However, there are a number of problems attending these developments. The Octavia Hill Association in Philadelphia has been one of the agencies very definitely interested in the problem of negro housing. One investigator reports:

"It seems, in direct contrast to the high purpose that prompted its origin, the Octavia Hill Association had been forced to subordinate its social betterment motive, more or less, to the necessity of making the venture continue to pay dividends, and thereby subsist during these times when much stronger professional real estate companies were being forced to the wall."

Social workers, health authorities, probation officers and the like all believe that the project has been of aid in improving the lives of the families occupying the dwellings improved by the association. However, the project has been far from ideal as a housing experiment when it is considered that:

"The ideal would necessitate the destruction of entire blocks in certain sections of old Philadelphia, with sanitary modern dwellings constructed in their place; a wholesale renovating of most of the homes with up-to-date approved conveniences; some method of relieving overcrowding especially when this is occasioned by families being forced to take lodgers into the home to meet exorbitant rents. The association had not sufficient resources for such extensive improvements, nor were they able to confine their activities to a single area where intensive planning would affect an entire neighborhood. What they have been able to do is to take over and improve exceptional cases of dilapidated dwellings throughout poor areas of the city and afterwards play the part of a good landlord. Care has been exercised in each case in the selection of tenants so as to offer the homes only to those families which showed most promise of social and economic advancement in a healthy, clean environment—families that without such an opportunity would probably never be able to rise above their old environs. There have been approximately 200 such dwellings owned or managed by the Octavia Hill Association that are occupied by negro families in various parts of the city."

In Pittsburgh, Pa., where negroes because of their low economic status tend to concentrate in the poorest districts even as in other cities, the Pittsburgh Housing Association is attempting to raise the standards of the poorest housing permitted in the city, thereby improving housing conditions for negroes. Although there is a surplus of dwellings in the lowest rental class, the association has been emphasizing the desirability of demolishing the worst houses to prevent their being occupied. During the first six months of 1931, more houses were demolished than during any other 12-month period. Meanwhile, negroes have been moving into better districts beyond the boundaries of their former areas of occupancy. The result has been a change in the center of negro population. The Pittsburgh Urban League has been stimulating housing improvement among the negroes with the co-operation of the Pittsburgh Housing Association. In the past five years there have been only two small housing projects: 1, a seven-family apartment house; the other, 11 unattached single-family houses, all modern conveniences which were first offered for sale at $7,500 each but later rented at $65 per month. Our informant adds this interesting comment:

"They have remained occupied and have continued to bring in the amount of rental which they demanded a year or two ago, in spite of the depression, and in spite of the present surplus of houses in the negro neighborhood."

With the entrance of the government into slum clearance and low-cost housing projects, a number of larger cities have attempted to initiate housing improvement for negroes. Projects were started in Washington D. C., Atlanta, New York, St. Louis, and many other communities. Not all of these projects were approved. A noticeable example is the instance of the failure to date of the Washington, D. C., effort at slum clearance. However, the government's pro-

he season. Long runs for scores, including one by young Boozer for 80 ards, featured Alabama's triumph.

TULANE WARNING.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934 General.

Red Cross Follows Anti-Negro Policy, Spivak Says

NEW YORK—(CNA) That the American Red Cross follows a well-marked-out policy of discrimination against Negroes, and that it has on occasions been used as an instrument to maintain Negro peonage, are among the sensational charges made by John L. Spivak in the leading article in the November issue of the "American Mercury." The article is entitled "Shady Business in the Red Cross."

Spivak is a well known labor journalist, and the author of "Georgia Nigger," novel of the Southern chain-gang system which stirred up a hornet's nest among Dixie officials two years ago. A series of articles by Spivak on the growing anti-semitic movement in America, entitled "Plotting the American Pogroms," is now appearing in the "New Masses."

Makes Charges Agaainst Red Cross.

Spivak's exposure of the Red Cross is based on months of study and investigation. Among the charges he makes are that the Red Cross is essentially a ward by J. P. Morgan and Company; that large sums of money collected for the Red Cross are invested in Morgan-controlled businesses; that it forces starving people to work without pay for private employers; and that it lends assistance to employers in breaking strikes.

The sections of the exposure dealing with the policies of the Red Cross towards Negroes, follow:

"The Red Cross issues no publicity about its activities to maintain the status quo even at the cost of human lives and widespread misery. Let me illustrate:

"In 1927, the several hundred thousand white and Negro farm workers who were made homeless by the ravages of the Mississippi flood, depended for their bread upon the mercy of the 'The Great Mother.' The widepread existence of peonage, which the Department of Justice consistently ignores, came to light. Planters refused to let their Negro tenants be moved from the area which the water was fast approaching, lest the Negroes escape.

Negroes Beaten and Lashed.

"Thousands of these modern Negro slaves were forced to build levees without pay for private employers, they were beaten and lashed when they rebelled, and during this period the Red Cross was receiving contributions from the people of the United States 'to aid the sufferers.'

"When the raging waters of the river receded, Red Cross officials, 'volunteer help' consisting of overseers from the various plantations whose Negroes were being watched by armed National Guardsmen, and the National Guard rounded up the Negroes, drove them onto barges, and delivered them back to their masters.

Deepening Debt-Slavery.

"The planters thereupon either distributed the food, using it as a weapon to force obedience, or charged the share cropper for it on his private books, deducting these charges from the money the Negro cropper was supposed to get at the end of the season. Negroes who had been in debt before found themselves in greater debt after the 'aid' given them by the Red Cross.

"In 1930, the Mississippi was visited by another 'act of God.' This time, instead of flooding the lands, there wasn't a dr of rain. This time the planters protested that the Red Cross was feeding the Negroes too much. ('The Great Mother' was spending an average of three and one-hal cents per person per meal), and insisted that the Red Cross stop feeding them so well lest the Negroes be unruly when the drought was over. The Red Cross promptly cut the dole.

"The New Orleans Times-Picayune of February 17, 1931, carried this Associated Press dispatch from Yazoo City, Miss.:

"In order to keep laborers from deserting farms in Yazoo County the Red Cross chapter has cut down on drought relief and now is administering only to cases of extereme destitution. Planters requested discontinuance of the daily distribution, saying hundreds of laborers were leaving farms.

"During the recent survey which I made throughout the United States, I gave particular attention to the distribution of relief not only by the Red Cross but by other relief agencies. Everywhere I went I heard complaints of prejudice shown by the Red Cross officials in the distribution of relief. In the South Negroes.

"In Birmingham, one Negro told me of six colored families who were taken off the Red Cross relief roll because they refused to go to Mississippi to work on white men's plantations. The Red Cross had told the Negroes that they would clear $500 by the end of the season and painted glowing pictures of the swell life they would live there. But the Negroes had heard of the peonage on the Mississippi farms ever since the 1927 flood and declined the offer. When they refused, the Red Cross told them that since they would not work when it was offered to them they did not need relief badly enough, and struck their names from the relief rolls.

Work Under Armed Guards.

"In Birmingham, an area virtually in the hands of Morgan-controlled subsidiaries of United States Steel, I heard of Will Morris, a young Negro who died of hunger and exposure in February of last year.

"The Red Cross had forced him to work on the roads, under an armed guard, for two days in the rain and cold, in return for a basket of food. The Young Negro had protested that he was weakened by longer hunger and that he did not think he could stand it. He was nevertheless forced out on the road work at which he died.

"In Dallas County, Arkansas, colored peple, before being given the free flour, was forced to work a day for the county.

"Free flour sent to Palm Beach County, Florida, for distribution was given to Negroes only after they had worked for it at the rate of thirty cents a day in the town of Belle Grade and fifty cents a day in South Bay. The bags of flour they were given were plainly marked "Not to be Sold.'

"In Clearwater, Florida, Negroes were so discriminated against in the distribution of Government flour by the Red Cross in 1932 that they organized a Colored Welfare League and reported the discrimination to the Great Mother.' Four days after they made their complaint, on November 4, 1932, to be exact W. D. Williams and M. Harvey who had headed the delegation to the 'Great Mother' were taken out by 'unidentified persons' and flogged until they were unconscious."

ADMINISTRATOR TELLS OF DIRE POVERTY EXTANT

Lack of Food, Floorless Cabins and City Shacks Called "Evil and Unnecessary"

Harry L. Hopkins, Federal Emergency Relief Administrator, has broadcast a nation-wide appeal for sympathetic understanding of the problem of feeding, clothing, and housing the 18,000,000 persons still on relief, including some 700,000 colored families.

Painting a vivid picture of dire poverty in all sections of the country, Mr. Hopkins declared that all of it did not begin with the depression. Inadequate housing, especially shacks in cities and floorless cabins in many sections of the country for poor whites and Negroes, tolerated for generations, Mr. Hopkins called "evil" and "unnecessary," and he declared that "something has got to be done about housing and something is going to be done."

He continued: "We should allow ourselves no smug feeling of charity at this holiday season to know that the Federal Government is attempting to take care of the physical wants of 18,000,000. We are merely paying damages for not having had a thought about these things many years ago. We will have to do a great deal of thinking from here out."

Asserting that 3,500,000 persons have been restored to useful employment, Mr. Hopkins said the outlook in some ways was more hopeful than ever before at the Christmas season.

Continuing, he said: "It has been one of the outstanding virtues of this administration that it has been willing to uncover the extent of the problem with which it has to deal. It is the motivating force behind the President and his aides to bring about a day when these men and women who have endured so much will come again, or even come, some of them, for the first time, into the inheritance which rightfully belongs to every citizen of the richest country in the world.

"And this is not all still in the stage of hope. Much has been accomplished. It lacks some months of being two years since the President undertook a task which was years in preparing. Remember that already at least 3,500,000 unemployed persons have gone back to work. Remember that in spite of the natural seasonal rise of unemployment in winter and the additional physical needs that people experience in cold weather, and in spite of the fact that depleted family resources have forced newcomers to list themselves upon the relief rolls, there are fewer families on relief at this moment than here were in March, 1933. Besides this, new social movements have been begun that will protect an enrich our common life. These good effects are even now, at the beginning of a long-time program, substantial enough to be felt. Not only have pledges been made, but pledges have been fulfilled."

Mr. Hopkins declared that because of limited funds families on relief often received "less than 50 per cent of the so-called ideal buget which is in itself inadequate to life." He said that among the recipients of relief there is some chisling, racketeering, politics and laziness.

Work relief, although more costly than direct relief, Mr. Hopkins said, is preferable from the standpoint of maintaining the morals of those forced to accept it. Work for the unemployed, he said, has been the goal set by the administration and he declared "we shall continue to fight for it." He asserted "most men do not give up without a struggle that intangible thing they call their independence."

Says It Takes Troops to Get Square Deal in South

TUNICA, Miss.—In an address to the delegation of the North Mississippi annual conference at Lane Chapel C. M. E. church, here Wednesday afternoon, Bishop Elias Cottrell of the first Episcopal district of the C. M. E. church said, "The only thing which will insure fairness and a square deal in the matter of relief for Negroes in the South is for President Roosevelt to send federal troops down here to see that it is done."

The bishop made these remarks to the conference in a discussion of the way Negroes of the state and South are faring at the hands of those who are dispensing federal relief.

Social Conditions, Improvement of-1934 General.

CUMBERLAND, MD.
TIMES

JAN 5 1934

LAND PROJECTS FOR NEGROE

While the government is busy wit its varied plans for reshaping th structure of American agricultur and redistributing population, i might consider the suggestion of Jewish rabbi in one of the big industrial cities, that negroes should return to the land.

The idea is at least worth considering in northern industrial communities, where there has been a great influx of southern negroes in the last 15 years. They are not adapted to the climate or the environment. Herded in slum areas, ill fitted to take care of themselves in their new surroundings and without the sympathy, help and decent housing they require, they become easy prey to tuberculosis and other diseases. They become discouraged and unhappy, too.

It would doubtless be far better for many of these people if they could be re-established on the soil in a congenial climate. But they would require special help and instruction to adapt them to modern agricultural methods. Also, perhaps, some form of modern rural community development, with model housing of a simple but adequate type. There is opportunity for useful experiments along this line.

WELLSVILLE, N. Y.
REPORTER

JAN 4 1934

LAND PROJECTS FOR NEGROES

While the government is busy with its varied plans for reshaping the structure of American agriculture and redistributing population, it might consider the suggestion of a Jewish rabbi in one of the big industrial cities, that negroes should return to the land.

The idea is at least worth considering in northern industrial communities, where there has been a great influx of southern negroes in the last 15 years. They are not adapted to the climate or the environment. Herded in slum areas, ill fitted to take care of themselves in their new surroundings and without the sympathy, help and decent housing they require, they become easy prey to tuberculosis and other diseases. They become discouraged and unhappy, too.

It would doubtless be far better for many of these people if they could be re-established on the soil in congenial climate. But they would require special help and instruction to adapt them to modern agricultural methods. Also, perhaps, some form of modern rural community development, with model housing of a simple but adequate type. There is opportunity for useful experiments along this line.

MAYBE our electoral college should be composed of professors.

TRANSIENT AID ALLOTTED

Alabama Gets $53,000 For April; Mississippi, $22,000

WASHINGTON, April 13—(AP)—A grant of $193,000 for April transient relief in Texas was made Friday by Harry L. Hopkins, the federal relief administrator.

Other grants included:

Mississippi, $22,000 for April transient relief.

Georgia, $48,000 for April transient relief.

Alabama, $58,000 for April transient relief.

Texas, $193,000 for April transient relief.

The grants were made as 12 state directors of transient relief went into conference here on a plan for a more uniform method of handling transient relief problems, with state relief administrations assuming responsibility.

Incest Rampant As Crowded Housing Conditions Smash Morals Throughout South

Tribune Staff Writer Finds "New Deal" Bane To Plantation Serfs; Negro No Lands To Work

By JOSEPH V. BAKER
Staff Correspondent

NEW ORLEANS, April—Housing conditions among Negroes on plantations and in the backwoods of Alabama and Louisiana have grown steadily more acute to the point that incest is now being practiced beyond the wildest imagination. Home and farm demonstration agents and government workers among the share-cropping element of these sections, have openly attested this fact.

Day after day landlords are crowding, herding large Negro families into one-room houses. Dilapidated shacks, through which both the sun and the rain pass freely, the floors of which have long-since crumbled to dirt, are becoming the sole haven of destitute Negroes whose lone avenue of existence is being threatened by the cotton acreage reduction of an experimenting program. Families of eight persons, a mother and father and six children, three of whom are above thirteen years of age, may be found in any one of these one-room shacks any night, on any plantation.

Morals Shattered

This is the story of a family who live in "bloody Lowndes" County, in Alabama. It is virtually the same story that any home demonstration agent will tell you in this section if the occasion arises:

Mother Jones was the mother of five daughters and three sons. Three of the girls are in their "teens" as are two of the boys. They live in one room, and the mother is expecting another baby soon. Her daughters began becoming mothers in so swift a fashion that, in her own words, she "can't tell which baby of which sister is the child of which brother."

But it is an inevitable condition when people are herded into the presence of the most intimate of human relations. Mother and father become living examples by which these young children, kept in ignorance by three-months' schooling, which are held on rainy days, may go onward to unmorality. One must call it unmorality instead of immorality, for they have never known morality.

In Montgomery County, adjacent to Lowndes, a man was jailed for killing his wife because she objected to intimate relations between him and his own daughter. This, too, was the result of a sardine-can arrangement of living. One big room with makeshift partitions was the only "castle" of which this man and his five children might boast.

Two things: a damnable share-cropping system which binds them to the land, and the disturbance of what little improved conditions some of them had attained, by a Federal Government of "experts" who can wrap the fate of eight millions of people around the point of a lead pencil. Of the two, the former is merely more harmful because it has been longer in operation.

We have referred to this share-cropping system many times. What we mean is the plain old working plan of "halves." "Mr. Charley" furnishes the mule, the fertilizer and the food for his tenant in advance. His tenant works the land and brings forth the crops; "Mr. Charley" superintends the selling of the last grain or the last bit of cotton. He figures things up, and in a beneficent manner tells John that he "almost made it," but not quite. John still owes something—he is never out of debt, and so long as he is in debt he cannot leave "Mr. Charley's" plantation. The matter of division is never brought up for it is not exactly healthy to challenge a white man's word.

And what of this coming of the Government?

The Washington "Regulators" tell the farmer to reduce acreage and "rent" his other lands to the United States. He is paid for this and so he seldom minds reducing. In doing this, however, he makes squatters out of Negro farmers who have been making as many as thirty bales of cotton. The Negro has no lands to work if the man who owns them "rents" them in idleness to the Government, and it takes no hoary seer to see that the Negro tenant is not going to get any of the money advanced for the "rent." He, then, must remain wherever he is merely for the chance to live on the land. Where he is going to get any money for food, clothes, to say nothing of repairing holes in a crumbling shack, is more than any can see. If they do dare leave the frying pan, they are hurled into the fire of the most brutal housing that man can imagine.

And all this goes on among Negroes while the Government's alphabetical funds go to gravel a road or to cut a ditch across a piece of sub-marginal land or, worse still, so that Negroes may work while the white boss takes the money rightfully due them, for "some back debts" that cannot be contested.

Washington To Gulf

I have come from Washington to the Gulf now, and everywhere it has been conclusively the same thing; the deeper you go into these backwoods, the more deplorable the situation becomes. The farther you go into this mud, the deeper the muck of commercialized prejudice; and the hoodwinking of the "brains" at Washington.

In the name of this newspaper and decency everywhere, I intend to carefully transport this slimy, creeping thing that I have found to the doors and desks of the "Black Cabinet" in Washington when I return, and see if it will turn their stomachs as it has done mine throughout these weeks.

If they talk or if they don't talk, this whole recovery program has been the biggest farce, as far as the Southern rural Negro is concerned, since Andrew Johnson and the Carpet-Baggers....and if anybody at Washington doubts what I say, they can take $65 and come down here and see!

WILMINGTON, DEL.
JOURNAL
FEB 27 1934

THE ADMINISTRATION OF RELIEF

THE report that just has been made to Governor Buck by the State Temporary Relief Commission, summarizing the commission's activities to February 1, not only is informing, but it presents an interesting study of the whole subject of public relief. It shows not only how the available funds were handled, but also how the relief was applied. Furthermore, it reveals the scope of the need and the number of persons who were the beneficiaries.

It is rather surprising to find that of the $3,091,860.04 spent by the commission up to the first of this month only 9/10 of 1 per cent. was used for administrative expenses. The cost of administration, according to the report, has aggregated $24,269.39. This includes $13,000, which was spent for an unemployment survey, a work project for "white-collar" unemployed.

This showing indicates, very plainly, that the commission has administered its job in an economical manner.

The extent and gravity of the need can be judged by the statement, contained in the report, that $2,337,914.32 or 75.6 per cent., was spent for direct relief, while $729,476.33 was applied to made-work projects for men and women.

The greatest suffering from the depression, figured on the ratio of population, was among colored people. The report sets forth that, while the number of Negro families in the State approximated one-eighth of all of the families, according to the 1930 census, Negro families made up one-third of the total number of families on the relief rolls. This means that, proportionately, the colored members of our population have suffered to a far greater extent than have the white people.

It has been necessary not only to provide food and fuel for many families, but also shelter. In New Castle county, alone, a monthly average of 2,144 families have been furnished with shelter.

The sympathetic atmosphere that obtains in our State was manifested in a survey made by the commission, where it was found that, out of 426 families studied, 48 were supported by friends between the time they were affected by unemployment and the time they applied to the commission for relief. Ninety-nine families bridged the gap through support furnished by relatives. Sixty-one families had savings that lasted for a time; 66 supported themselves through part-time employment; 79 did so by doing odd jobs. Twenty-nine were enabled to get along on income from rooms and property under their control, while 27 used loans obtained on insurance policies.

While it is assumed that most persons in need exhausted every other means of sustenance before asking for public relief, we regret to note that there were some exceptions. The commission reports, for example, that of the more than 10,000 families with which the commission has had contact it has been necessary to take action against 116, "who," it is explained, "have obtained direct and work relief to which they were not entitled." This group, which represented 116 families, received a total of $8,959.16. But this money, happily, is being paid back.

One particularly sorrowful phase of the survey is that which shows to what extent children have figured among the sufferers. Of the 22,660 relief clients on the commission's rolls 9,073, or approximately 40 per cent., are under 16 years of age. Five hundred and fifty-seven are infants and 4,697 are under 13 years of age.

All of the beneficiaries of State relief are not non-professional people. Architects, actors, brokers, chemists draftsmen, druggists, grocers, engineers, teachers and other business and professional men and women are on the rolls.

The survey gives the public an intelligent idea of what is being done with the funds that have been set up to cope with the present economic emergency in our State.

TUGWELL ASKS FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY CAUSE

'Do Away With Need Of Your Services,' He Tells Social Workers

By United Press.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 22.—Rexford G. Tugwell, ambassador of a liberal administration to the national convention of the nation's social workers, last night told an audience of 4,000 to consider means of eliminating the causes of poverty as well as merely caring for the distressed.

Birmingham Age-Herald 5-23-34

"You must in some measure devote yourselves to constructive thought as to how we can best prevent the American people from needing your services except in rare and accidental cases," he said.

The audience cheered Tugwell, assistant secretary of agriculture and member of the "brain trust" for five minutes when he concluded.

The administration, Tugwell said, has had to erect quickly a relief structure which should have been established 40 years ago.

Speaking of the welfare and relief reforms necessary, Tugwell outlined his ideas and indicated that efforts along those lines would be aided. He sadi:

"It will be necessary to reinforce some of our efforts with legislation and to obviate many of your problems by appropriate industrial and agricultural controls, and to transform your volunteer army into a corps of seasoned fighters against misery. I think you can count on help in these ways."

Tugwell denied the "new deal" was in any way trying to change men and their ways. Men, he said, have been pretty much the same for 5,000 years.

"The new deal is attempting to do nothing to people, and does not seek to alter their way of life, their wants and desires. What is demanded of America today is the making over of the institutions controlled and operated for the benefit of the few so that regardless of their control they will be operated for the benefit of many."

The problem of youth—"those who have come of age economically since the sins of their fathers were visited upon them in the form of the present depression"—is "terribly urgent," Tugwell said. It is not an issue, he said, that can be deferred until some theorist can work out a neat solution.

"We are faced with the alternatives of making rapid readjustments in our social and economic system which will enlarge its capacity to absorb the young or of risking the consequences of idleness among millions of them. We have no problem more serious than this," he said.

DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF NEGRO WOMEN AT WHITE HOUSE

Atlanta Constitution 5-18-34

WASHINGTON, D. C. —Miss Lucy D. Slowe, Dean of Women, Howard University, attended the conference on the proposed resident camps and home for needy unemployed women were held. At the White House under the auspices of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

Three sessions of the conference were held. At the morning session, in the East room of the White House, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt presided and introduced the speakers. Miss Josephine Brown, spoke on the need for training single and unattached woman in the matter of vocational education and in the matter of constructive use of leisure time. Dr. George Zook, Commissioner of Education, called attention to the hundreds of young people who have become tramps on the country's roads because they are neither in school nor employed.

The problem of the unemployed Negro woman, both as it affects her efficiency on the job and as it affects her training for the constructive use of leisure needs the attention of all interested community groups and should be very definitely called to the attention of the Emergency Relief Administration. Both Dean Slowe and Mrs. Vivian Garth Alleyne, Industrial Secretary of the Colored Young Women's Christian Association in Baltimore discussed this matter with the members of the conference and officials of the F. E. R. A.

Black Communities Have Average American Ethics and Morals

Charleston, S. C., News & Courier October 12, 1934

WASHINGTON.—That the ethical and moral ideals and practices of colored communities are in keeping with the American standard, is the conclusion expressed in the report of the committee on ethics and morals of the National Conference on Education, which met here last week.

Any variations from the American pattern, says the report, are based on historical factors involved in the race's unique place in American history.

C. P. Time Acknowledged

Unreliability in keeping appointments; lack of proper conception of time, as to as beginning and closing meetings; weakness in sense of obligation in repayment of loans or payment of pledges; and lack of responsibility for support of his own institutions, were cited as respects in which a weaker moral sensitivity had thus developed.

At the same time, it was emphasized that, for the most part, the response to the traditional sanctions of morality—honesty, truthfulness, chastity, etc.—is the same in both groups.

Environment Important

Stress was placed upon the importance of improving the environmental factors in education for the race, charging that no other factor was of such great significance in the achievement of character.

Dr. Willis J. King, president of Gammon Theological Seminary of Atlanta, Ga., is chairman of the committee, and the Rev. B. E. Mays, dean of the school of religion at Howard University, is vice-chairman.

NEGRO CODE IS URGED

Federal Relief Agencies are Unfair, Churchmen Hear

Atlantic City, Oct. 11.—(AP): A government code to safeguard Southern negroes against the alleged discriminations of federal relief agencies was urged before the house of deputies at the triennial convention of the Episcopal church today.

Resolutions offered by the Rev. Phillip J. J. Jenson, of Owings Mills, Md., appealed for "justice on behalf of American negroes" and declared that needy negroes suffer discrimination in the type of work given th by the government.

Throughout the South, the Rev. Mr. Jenson declared, relief allotments for negroes are below the scale for whites, the alowances for negroes running as low as $4 to $6. In many cases, the speaker declared, funds alloted to negro farmers are actually withheld.

The resolutions were placed on the calendar for future vote.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1934

Georgia
6

Report of 19,000 Starving in Bibb Is Confirmed by Charity Leader

Heroic Protectors of Children

MACON, Ga., June 13.—(AP)—A published report that 19,000 persons in Macon and Bibb county have been starving by more or less rapid degrees, was described today as a sordid, sad story "but not in the least overdrawn" by Mrs. Frances J. Hattaway, in charge of charity agencies operating in the city.

An auditor's report on the federal emergency relief administration showed 13,437 negroes and 5,772 white persons on relief rolls, receiving an average of $4.25 a month per person. The FERA spent $125,000 here last month.

The city and county were described as not in worse condition than other similarly situated communities by the Macon Telegraph, which said the local problem would be acute if the federal government support is withdrawn.

"The state has many other communities of the kind," the Telegraph said. "The poor have been suffering. Not only the poor—but the class unwilling to admit poverty have been suffering, too. Their pride kept them from standing in the bread line.

"The president's message a few days ago was read with more interest than any message ever sent before from the White House to the people of this country. He said he wanted the people to live as Americans should live. The 19,000 in this community can hardly understand his language. They would be delighted to live as well as a negro's hungry coon dog lived a few years ago."

One of the government's relief workers was quoted as saying: "Could you expect any better in any family in any kind of times when a breadwinner in a family of five or more must subsist on 50 cents a day earnings a day. The negroes can be held down to starvation with having white company. In county the white company proequals the number of negroes. standard of living anywhere be averaged without taking into count those that are worked for an animals get."

The combination of the Georgia Children's Service Society and the Georgia Iudustrial Home puts upon Macon a great responsibility. The headquarters will be here.

The Mumford Home (known in recent years as the Georgia Industrial Home) is to be used as temporary quarters or a receiving home for the babes and children that fate casts out of the hearts of men or out of the lives of loved ones. The Georgia Children's Service Society was originally organized under a different name, but, like the Georgia Industrial Home, its function is to help the children being left on the stranger's doorstep, and not accepted by the owner of the home.

Many combinations of circumstances put boys and girls in that predicament. The baby at Doerun, reported in The Telegraph, is a case. A poorly dressed man walked about the streets with a babe which he said he found three miles out of town. Soon the man disappeared, and a babe of the same general description was found in the office of the clerk of the court, where it had been placed surreptitiously.

Frequently other cases are as sad and even worse. In Atlanta a babe had been given into the keeping of a Negro woman. The parents were too poor to raise the baby and work at the wage they could get. Both had to work, and the Negro woman agreed to do her best for it. This incensed the authorities, and they had a case made against the parents, and brought the Negro woman into the picture for cruelty to children. Yet that child was in a thousand times greater luck than the one at Doerun. No sensible person would blame a Negro woman for doing her best for a white child. It is no more and no less than some white people do for a helpless Negro child. In fact, one farmer near Macon adopted and raised every Negro child that he found abandoned anywhere near his plantation, and kept on carrying such burdens until he became as poor as he had once been rich. He did this service for the world, because the Lord had made him so he could not do otherwise.

It is really a pity that there are not more hearts as kind as that of the white farmer, who gave the best years of his life trying to ameliorate the condition of the cast-off or orphaned Negro children within his reach, and the Negro woman with a heart big enough to prevent the white child from suffering.

That spirit animates the workers for the one hundred or more stray and friendless children who have been picked up out of the highways and by-ways and brought here and nourished back to life, in the hope that some home can be found big enough to hold one of them. The Service is akin to the orphanage work except that it seeks to put the children into private homes and under personal and individual influence of good people, as soon as desirable arrangements can be completed. Among the children are many that would consider themselves in heaven if they could get half as much kindness as they see bestowed upon a cat or a dog—and this is not intended to make anybody less kind and generous to dumb animals.

The mystery about the Children's Service Society is, where does the money come from? Those at work in the cause say it is derived from nothing but prayers and faith that God will touch the hearts of enough of his favored sons and daughters each day to keep the meal barrel from getting empty. As in the case of the manna, that was limited to just enough for each day's supply during the wilderness march, the children never have an accumulation of food. It is a daily struggle that seems to work a daily miracle.

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle
August 19, 1934

Helping Needy Negro Children With School Clothing

A plan by which school clothing may be provided for negro children whose parents are unable to provide it has been proposed by Aaron Gamble, President of the United Workers Association of Augusta, who has made contact with the Richmond County Emergency Relief Association, and is working in cooperation with that association. The United Workers report a membership of two hundred and sixty and was formed last Spring for the purpose of providing employment and relief for Negroes in this community. Some of the best known negroes of Augusta are among its members, and the president says that he expects to have five hundred members within the next few months.

The plan of the United Workers is to secure a tract of land of some three hundred acres near the city, which would give work to a considerable number of idle negroes, and at the same time provide food products in ample quantity for the needy in the city. The plans for the acquisition of the land have not been worked out in detail yet, but several tracts are under consideration.

In regard to the particular plan of providing school clothing, the United Workers have borrowed seventeen sewing machines, and have the promise of the use of the Catholic Hall on Gwinnett street, and a number of negro women have volunteered to sew. What is needed is cloth, and the United Workers are hopeful that the merchants and manufacturers of textile goods in Augusta will aid them by making donations of cloth in order that the negro children in need of clothing may be equipped for school.

Opportunity for helping needy children equip themselves to go to school is offered by the United Workers, and those disposed to help are urged to get in touch with President Aaron Gamble at 938 Gwinnett street.

The movement to help these little negro children get decent clothing with which to attend school is a worthy one, and we hope there will be a liberal response by both the merchants and manufacturers.

Atlanta, Ga. Georgian
August 5, 1934

OLEN I. FREEMAN MADE MANAGER OF U.S. PROJECT

D. A. Calhoun, PWA Supervisory Manager, Returns After Talk With Ickes.

Bids for demolition in the Atlanta University federal low-cost housing development area will be advertised for Monday, D. A. Calhoun, PWA supervisory projects manager, announced Saturday on returning from Washington.

Mr. Calhoun also announced the appointment by Administrator Ickes of Olen I. Freeman, well-known Atlanta engineer, as project manager.

T. T. Flagler, Atlanta building constructor, was named recently as project manager for the Techwood Drive project. Both will be under the supervision of Mr. Calhoun.

Mr. Calhoun said Saturday that he had received authority to advertise for bids for wrecking about half the university area, the section bounded by Fair, Lawshe, Parsons and Elm Streets.

SPECIFICATIONS AVAILABLE

Specifications on these bids will be available in Mr. Calhoun's office, 409 Atlanta National Bank Building, Monday morning, he said.

Bids will be opened at 11 o'clock Wednesday morning, August 15, Mr. Calhoun said. The bids for wrecking the remaining university area, bounded by Lawshe, Fair, Maher and Dora Streets and Greensferry Avenue, will be called for in the next few weeks.

Techwood Drive demolition will get under way after bids for demolition are called for in about three weeks, Mr. Calhoun said.

Completion of legal details in connection with condemnation of the land in both areas came Saturday, when a jury in federal court completed fixing values on

$400,000 DISTRIBUTED

More than half of the $800,000 deposited with the court for payment to property owners in the two areas has been disbursed to date, it was revealed Saturday. The remainder is being disbursed as rapidly as possible through Fred L. Beers, chief deputy clerk of the federal court here.

Construction on the two projects should get under way in the fall—about October—PWA officials said Saturday.

More than 2,000 men will be employed for about a year in constructing the low cost housing developments. The Techwood project will be built for whites at a cost of $2,700,000 and the university project for negroes will cost $1,600,000.

Georgia

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Atlanta, Ga. Georgian
September 26, 1934

ICKES APPOINTS ATLANTA BODY

To co-operate with the federal government in the construction and administration of the Atlanta University low-cost housing project (for negroes), Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes has named an advisory committee, it was announced Wednesday.

John Hope, president of Atlanta University, heads the committee of nine, which includes Dr. Will W. Alexander, director Commission on Interracial Co-operation; David T. Howard, president David T. Howard & Company; Eugene M. Martin, secretary Atlanta Life Insurance Company.

L. D. Milton, vice president Citizens' Trust Company; Florence M. Read, president Spelman College; Dean Sage, of New York, president trustees of Atlanta University.

Kendall Weisiger, assistant to president Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company, and S. W. Walker, president Pilgrim Health & Life Insurance Company.

The advisory committee will assist in the ceremonies next Saturday morning when Secretary Ickes will inaugurate demolition of the slum area by setting off dynamite which will destroy one of the buildings on the tract.

Later Secretary Ickes will demolish the first house on the Techwood project, where a low-cost housing development will be built for white people.

Albany, Ga., Herald
October 9, 1934

Negro Nursery School Teachers Are Meeting Here

Six-Day State Conference Opened Yesterday at Georgia Normal College.

The state meeting of the Negro nursery school teachers of Georgia opened at the Georgia Normal and Agricultural College yesterday. The conference will last through Monday, Dr. J. W. Holley, college president, stated.

The conference was called by Miss Martha McAlpin, state director of nursery school education. The teaching staffs of all FERA nursery schools in the state are represented at the meeting.

During the six days the conference is in session an intense study of the nursery school program will be made. The following topics will be studied: Housing and equipment, daily programs, personnel of the school, relation to the local relief office, food and clothing for the preschool child and general health.

Those conducting the courses are: L. S. Molette, Negro FERA state supervisor; Mrs. Geneive Gaines, state department of nursery school education; Blanche Sowell, R. N., Georgia Normal College; Mrs. J. W. Holley, director of department of home economics, Georgia Normal College; Mrs. M. A. Stevens, department of physical education, Georgia Normal College.

It is believed that much good will result from the conference at Albany, it was said at the school today. The need for training and care of the preschool child in Georgia is most acute. Thus far the nursery school program has done much in helping solve this difficulty. It is hoped that these schools will be established in many more communities throughout the state.

Last year's preschool program at the nursery school located on the Georgia Normal College campus was most outstanding.

Miss McAlpin felt that the work done last year with the children and in the adult or parent group was farreaching.

A Start

In Atlanta Secretary of Interior Ickes assisted in blowing up two squalid shacks. The ceremony was important. It was the first actual attack by the government upon a great internal enemy, the city slum.

Secretary Ickes was starting two low-cost housing projects in Georgia's capital under Public Works Administration's Emergency Housing Corp. The two projects will cost $4,800,000, of which the government will furnish a third as an outright grant.

One project for whites will provide 603 apartments, with baths, to rent for $7.90 per room per month; the other, for negroes, 617 modern apartments to rent for $5.50 per room.

These slum-clearance ventures are part of a government program involving the spending of $147,000,000 on 39 projects in 33 communities.

This program has been delayed for a year. It should be remembered, however, that the administration was pioneering with new problems and personnel, that it had to fight civic inertia, legal red tape, real estate speculators.

It is also true that the program, at best, scratches only the surface. We should be spending billions, not millions; rehousing millions of families, instead of thousands. But just as the government has tackled the evils of child labor, sweatshops, of low wages and long hours, so now it has begun the slow task of providing decent homes for those who need them most.

"It is strange," Secretary Ickes said, "that the tearing down of a miserable shanty, long unfit for human habitation, but which, nevertheless, until recently has been the home for human souls, should be such a milestone at this supposedly advanced stage in the civilization of our country. I hope it will prove to be only the first of many on a long and broad highway leading to that fairer and juster social order for which we have been striving since the dawn of history."

Aged and Infirm Negroes To Get Christmas Dinner

Central City College Providing Meal for More than 100 Who Otherwise Might Be Forgotten; Yuletide Service Planned at Noon Today

Now their eyes are misty with the years, their once-adept hands are trembling, their doddering legs incapable of supporting thier withering brown bodies beside a hot stove.

There was a time they could cook a turkey to a delicate turn and serve it in a style worthy of a king's table.

The ycould take a rest here and another there, and then they were welcome to take a heaping plate to their own homes.

But it's been many a day since they felt themselves a necessary part of their master's mistress's great Christmas dinner.

Today, however, more than 100 of these elderly Negroes in Macon will eat a big, wholesome dinner as guests of Central City college and its benefactors.

"That the usefulness of Central City college may be more keenly felt in Macon, its students under the direction of their teachers will serve a Christmas dinner for every old colored person in Macon who may not have someone to prepare a good wholesome dinner for them Christmas day."

Thus read the announcement made yesterday by J. H. Gadson, president of the Negro institution, who said at least a hundred of these honored guests are expected.

A Christmas service will be held in the college chapel at 12 noon and the dinner will be served in the college dining hall at 1 o'clock. The students will cook and serve the dinner themselves.

"If you know of any old colored person that you would like to have enjoy a good Christmas dinner please telephone us their names and addresses, or if it is convenient for you to send them over here in your car, we shall appreciate that."

The announcement reads further: "Please send them or bring them in time for the Christmas service at noon."

The planned menu consists of soup, coffee, various kinds of meats, vegetables, chickens, turkeys, bread, desserts and fruit.

The announcement said anyone desiring to help with funds for the repast may get in touch with the college officials who will send for the contribution—and thank you, suh.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

Georgia

Macon, Ga. News
March 13, 1934

HOMEMAKING PLAN FOR NEGROES O. K.

McCommon Approves Work Outlined by Groups; Committees Are Announced

Negroes who met to work out plans for the CWA home-making schools were commended for their interest and leadership by George McCommon, general chairman of the project, at a meeting yesterday at 155 Broadway.

On their own initiative the Negroes held a meeting Sunday afternoon to appoint tentative committees. These were approved by Mr. McCommon.

Eight schools for white women, and 10 for Negroes are to be established at an early date in Bibb county. They will be taught by trained teachers, paid with CWA funds. Balanced meals, budgeting and proper cooking will be stressed.

Miss McKinley in Charge

Miss Pauline McKinley, supervisor of women's projects, will superintend the work. The committees will sponsor the schools, and Mrs. Georgia Cheatham, supervisor of the Negro relief bureau, will serve on the executive board of the Negro schools. Committees for the white schools were appointed last week.

The following committees will sponsor the classes at the different schools: Pleasant Hill, Alma Williams, Ruth Howard, Mrs. A. C. Ashley, C. D. Ingram and A. W. Barrow; East Macon school, J. E. Sheppard, Mrs. H. C. Richardson, Mrs. Ed Redding, Mrs. A. W. Brown and Mrs. Wesley Jackson; Tindallville and Tybee school, Hattie Ellis, Fanny Holt, Bonnie Bright, M. L. Fleming and Ida Bolton.

Unionville school, D. W. Mosley, Matthew Dubose and Mrs. Matthew Dubose; South Macon school, Lula Grier and Tom Bivins; Swift Creek school, Bennie Collins, Harriet Thorpe and Elizabeth Finney.

Rutland school, Mamie Tinsley, R. L. Woolfolk, Henry Moore, Woody Grier and Mrs. Richards; Union school, George Middleton, Mattie Howard, Hattie Tyler, James Payton and Carrie Hart and at the Lizella school, Joe Colbert and Mrs. Missouri Calhoun.

S. H. Lee and Mamie Wesley, county agents, are to serve as general supervisors; Dr. C. W. Dyer, general chairman, and Frank Hutchings, secretary.

ATLANTA, GA., SEPT. 10, 1934.

SOUTH LEADS IN FARM AID.

At conferences to be held during the next two weeks in the main agricultural sections of the country plans will be discussed looking toward the lifting of several million farm families from the relief rolls and placing them on a basis of self-support through federal aid.

Already 80,000 rural families are now being rehabilitated, having been placed on farms leased by the government. Such of these families who during the next year demonstrate their fitness for ownership will be permitted to buy the farms they occupy on some kind of long-term payments.

Incident to the announcement of the enlarged program to substitute self-support for poverty among the millions of farm families now on relief rolls, Lawrence Westbrook, assistant director of the FERA in charge of rural rehabilitation, reveals that the south has received the lion's share of farm relief expenditures, largely because of the high per cent of tenants in this section, most of whom can have small hope of owning land without government aid.

Several thousand families are now being rehabilitated in each southern state, the average investment per family running from $36 in Mississippi to $126 in Arkansas, this covering land lease, equipment supplies and live stock. Additional families are being steadily secured from rural relief rolls.

Not only the finances but the morale of these families is being rehabilitated, according to Administrator Westbrook, who describes as follows the fine results being secured by this branch of FERA relief:

Many of these families have been "on the share" all their lives. Whether they make a good crop or a bad one when the end of the year rolls around it was all the same. They had nothing to show for their year's work.

Now, with the relief administration's help, they are making crops which, no matter how little, are their own. They owe the FERA for their animals, their plows, and the feed and food they use until their own crops are made. But that is no heavy load, and the administration is setting up projects on which they can earn 30 cents an hour, in time spared from farm work, and apply it in payment of their account.

Supplementing this program of rehabilitation of farm families who have been on the relief rolls, other thousands of former farm families now living in cities are being sent by the government back to farms in order that they may again become self-supporting.

Both branches of the FERA relief work are being extended in Georgia, hundreds of families having been established on farms in the state during the past several months.

In this rehabilitation of farm folk, and those who have come to the cities only to find that they can no longer earn a living in industry, lies the best hope for a permanent solution of the unemployment problem. It will benefit both urban communities, upon whom unemployed former farmers are now a burden, and farming sections by refilling the thousands of abandoned farms.

Tampa, Fla., [illegible]
September 8, 1934

AN IDEAL RURAL CENTER

I have just taken a knee-deep dip into Georgia. The object of this visit was to attend the session of the Log Cabin Community Center in Hancock County. This enterprise is the outgrowth of the pioneer enterprise of two energetic Hubert brothers who migrated to this locality shortly after the Civil War. Being unable to buy land in the adjoining county because of the restrictive policy, they migrated across the line to a more liberal community in quest of the ownership of land. By hard work and frugal habits the land in a short time was bought and paid for. Zack Hubert, after whom and his wife, the center is named, brought up a family of twelve head of children, according to local parlance. All of these children were educated, a number of them earning a college degree. For useful and distinguished service, the Hubert family is as well known as any colored family one might think of. However far flung or wide spread may have been their field of service, their affection still centered about the old homestead. The old Zack Hubert estate consisted of four hundred acres. The children decided never to let this heritage depart from the family ownership. Benjamin F. Hubert, President of the Georgia State College at Savannah was selected as leader and exponent of the family purpose. As result we have the old homestead in tact, around which the community center has been planned and is being developed.

The Log Cabin Community is located near the Geographical center of Georgia in the heart of a purely rural area, as far removed from urban contamination as any spot could well be in any settled part of the country. It is one hundred miles from Sax Atlanta, sixty miles from Augusta, fifty miles from Macon, and a hundred miles from Savannah. Its rural isolation is well defined. The Log Cabin Center commands a region of about twenty five square miles with a preponderant majority of colored inhabitants. Even the small trading towns are from seven to ten miles removed. Within the more immediate community there are four hundred persons comprising sixty five white and fifteen Negro families. Thirty nine of the Negro families own their own homes. There are about 12,000 acres of land owned by Negroes. This scheme, therefore, though under Huberts' initiative and leadership is not solely of the Huberts, by the Huberts and for the Huberts, but is of community wide importance and benefit.

I think that any one who will look the Negro situation squarely in the face must conclude that the city holds no roseate promise for any enlarged Negro contingency in the immediate or near future. Our large centers already have on hand as many, and more than as many, as can be adequately taken care of. To say the very least, there is no further place for re-enforcement from rural migration. The real question is, what can be done with and for the majority of the race now in the country with no prospect of relief through cityward movement.

I can safely say that I did not observe the instance of a single country Negro between Washington and Sparta, Ga. who seemed to me to be in as pitiable and hopeless a position as are thousands in Washington and in every other large city. Of the hundreds whom I saw about the Community Center, not one seemed in dire want or on the brim of suffering and starvation on account of the depression. This I am saying in face of the fact that I saw and more or less closely scrutinized thousands of attendants upon the Baptist Association gathered at the center from the regions round about. I do not recall seeing such a large gathering of Negroes recently, except at the Elks convention. The estimated number ranged from four to five thousand. They came in automobiles, trucks, farm wagons, on horseback and afoot to this alluring center of Negro social life.

The Log Cabin is built of native pine and stone. There is a great hall with adequate space to accommodate the meetings of the immediate community, with service and living rooms on the rear or to the sides. It is built in entire good architectural taste and convenience, then there is the consolidated church which seats some six hundred persons, the Rosenwald school house which has five teachers and which has been adopted by the County as the County training school, a community store. About the school grounds are encouraged such play facilities as rural life requires. All sorts of recreational, educational and social betterment meetings head up here. The county and national extension agents also center here. As might be expected this center assumed leadership in improvement of farm methods such as fertilization of soil, rotation of crops, the introduction of new breeds of plants and animals, the destruction of plant and animal ene-

Atlanta Univ. Housing Project Dramatically Inaugurated When Dynamite Demolishes Building

Atlanta, Ga.—The Atlanta University housing project, first slum-clearance and low-cost housing enterprise ever attempted by the federal government was officially and dramatically inaugurated Saturday when Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, in the presence of a vast gathering of Atlanta citizens and students of the local colleges pressed the lever that dynamited the first house to be razed on the 18-acre tract.

From a vantage point on the campus of Spelman College, which faces the housing site, thousands of persons heard Secrtary Ickes extol the institution in whose neighborhood the federal government is building its first model group of houses, and watched with enthusiasm and prolonged cheers the demolition of the first of the 200 dilapidated houses that are to be razed.

Within an hour after the Atlanta University project had been thus vividly brought to the attention of the people of Atlanta, and through the press, motion picture cameras, and news photographers, to the attention of the nation and the world, Secretary Ickes stepped to a microphone at the nearby Georgia School of Technology chapel and in a nation wide broadcast delivered a stirring defense of the government program of slum-clearance and low-cost housing.

"Our slum clearance program will take no note of race or creed or color," he stated in his address to millions throughout the United States. "We are particularly glad that the requests from Atlanta for slum clearance have called for benefits for the entire population. Atlanta has been a pioneer along many progressive lines, and it is only fitting that the city which has been a leader in inter-racial cooperation should insist that all parts of its population should benefit from this new social venture. This reflects the spirit of the New Deal. We know, from experience, that when one section or group of the population flourishes at the expense of others, it is not long before the whole country is the looser."

Secretary Ickes, who came to Atlanta for the ceremonies, entered the platform on the Spelman College campus at 9:40 o'clock and as the assembly cheered, was greeted by President John Hope, chairman of the University housing advisory committee, who presided. The Doxology was sung, and Colonel A. T. Walden welcomed the Secretary and his party including Col. Horatio B. Hackett, director of the housing division of the PWA, and the architects and engineers of the University project. The great audience joined in the singing of the Negro National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing" under the direction of Professor Kemper Harreld.

The Secretary was introduced by President Hope as one who "for many years worked for a square deal, a New Deal, a common nationll honesty that would guarantee and promote decent treatment and broad freedom for all men whether white or black." The Secretary spoke briefly and informally, advising his audience that he was obliged to save his real message for the national broadcast which followed at 11 o'clock. A brief prayer by Dr. William A. Fountain, A. M. E. Bishop of Georgia, followed.

After the singing of "Great Day," which along with the National Negro Anthem was recorded by sound cameras, the detonator which was to release the dynamite under the house selected for demolition was placed on the platform. As movie cameras ground from every possible point of vantage and the audience stood with bated breath, the Secretary pressed the plunger and across the street below the campus a small red-painted cottage rose in the air and fell into a mass of disordered timber, bricks and broken glass. A great cheer arose. The Atlanta University housing project first enterprise of its kind ever to be entered upon by the national government, had been formally begun.

SAVANNAH, GA.
NEWS
OCT 29 1934

SAVANNAH'S GREATEST "EYE-SORE"

If there is one project, above all others which should rivet the attention of Savannah citizens and be hammered at continually until it is carried forward to completion, it is the widening of West Bay street. Motorists from the North pass through South Carolina into Georgia and sweep onward across the Savannah river causeway and reach the "gateway" of the beautiful city they have heard so much about. Then they suddenly plunge into a slanting, narrow groove of a roadway, resembling the entrance to a rat trap flanked on either side by negro shacks and so congested that traffic is extremely hazardous. What a fine impression of Savannah!

This much-agitated project, which has been practically dormant for some time, is brought forcibly to the attention of Savannah by the following letter received by the Morning News Friday from Robert M. Nelson of New York, secretary and treasurer of the Certain-teed Products Corporation, of which the Southern Buildings Products Corporation, operating a plant on the western edge of Savannah, is a subsidiary:

> I was delighted to read your editorial, "Abolish the Slums," in your issue of the twentieth.
>
> My thoughts naturally turned to Yamacraw in Savannah and whether any plans are under way for the clearance and improvement of that district. The stretch between the Savannah end of the viaduct up to the gas station on Bay street is a bad eye-sore, and it is my hope that something will soon be done towards its complete elimination. Unfortunately, Yamacraw is the first view that the Southern-bound motorists get of Savannah. First impressions are likely to remain more or less permanently in the mind of the average man, and, although motorists subsequently may view the beautiful sections of Savannah with enchantment, this first impression is likely to linger in their minds.
>
> It would be my idea that the hovels on each side of the highway should be torn down, the street widened and a parkway constructed on each side of the highway, which would make a most attractive and impressive gateway into the city.
>
> This method of improvement would naturally bring in no direct dividend on the cost thereof, but 30 per cent would be a direct grant by the federal government, and I am sure that dividends on the 70 per cent assumed by the city would be received indirectly through the more favorable impressions created thereby.

There have been intermittent movements on the part of civic organizations and city officials to bring about improvements in Yamacraw such as those suggested in Mr. Nelson's letter, but, apparently, they have never advanced farther than the commit-tee stage and have been permitted to die but without the slightest accomplishment Now that T. E. Turner, a representative of the Federal Housing Administration and a former Savannahian, is here to co-operate with the Savannah Chamber of Commerce and other civic bodies in a home-repairing and modernization campaign, it would seem to be the logical time to push forward the Bay street widening project. Owners of property flanking this narrow, unsightly thoroughfare at the very portal of the city, might be assisted in obtaining loans whereby their houses could be moved to other locations or perhaps, as Mr. Nelson suggests, the city authorities might secure a general loan and grant from the federal government sufficient to carry out the entire project. If this project alone is carried to fulfillment during the housing campaign to be launched this week, then the campaign will by no means have been in vain

Georgia Leads All States In South In Nursery Schools

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a report to Administrator Harry L. Hopkins this week, Dr. Grace Langdon, FERA director of nursery schools, disclosed that Georgia leads all her sister States of the deep South for the second year in the New Deal children's educational program.

There are 55 nursery schools approved by the State authorities and the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. Eleven of these nursery schools are colored, with two full-time colored teachers and two part-time workers for each 30 children.

Atlanta has two colored nursery schools, Athens, Albany, Fort Valley, Milledgeville, Quitman, Madison, Macon, Rome, and Savannah each have one.

"This is the first time," said Dr. Langdon, "that thousands of these little children throughout the country, ranging from two to five years of age have ever had regular daily feedings of orange juice, cod liver oil, diet of body building foods, and a day-time rest perod; to say nothing of supervised play, story telling, and early lessons in health habits."

Several hundred colored workers ,especially trained for nursery school work, have been given employment in the 48 States and the Virgin Islands for the second season by this Federal Emergency Relief aducational program for pre-school children.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1934

Georgia
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BEN DAVIS, JR., CALLS ATLANTA MEN LACKEYS

Afro-American

Resolution Attacking the Colored Welfare Workers 'Traitorous'

1-27-34

BEN DAVIS, SR., ON OTHER SIDE

Baltimore, Md.

Son Also Includes Him Among Lackeys.

ATLANTA.—A resolution condemning local colored welfare workers, passed by ministerial bodies last week and published in a local newspaper, has been denounced by Ben Davis, Jr., and its authors named as "lackeys," despite the fact that Ben Davis, Sr., introduced the resolution.

The resolution, passed last Tuesday at a meeting which had present the majority of ministers in the city, stated:

RESOLVED, That those persons who are in charge of the local work, lecture from time to time to the colored help charged with the responsibility of dispensing relief to the suffering; to be more humane, kind, courageous and polite to those with whom duty brings them in contact; and especially lecture to door-keepers to be more kindly and humane to those standing out in the weather awaiting admission to the inside; as there is great suffering and much complaint about the services being rendered among colored people by colored people.

Son Issues Statement.

In a statement which Mr. Davis, Jr., who is an attorney, says the newspaper refused to publish, he says:

"This resolution is a traitorous attempt to divide the people. The white collar clerks working under the relief administration are themselves the victims of differentials in wages.

"This resolution divides them, inasmuch as it makes the worker think that his enemy is the clerk dispensing relief and not the administration which is callous to the fact that the workers are discriminated against by the heads of the relief departments.

"It misdirects the resentment of the people against discrimination into channels which force them to fight themselves. If misleaders wish to take the lead in fighting the people's battles, let them aim their guns at those who are holding their race in bondage and not at the Negro people themselves.

"The resolution is a complete sell-out to the Federal and state authorities who themselves are responsible for the abuses and discriminations practiced against Negro workers seeking relief.

"It says nothing about the discriminations on the CWA, PWA and all the other 'alphabetical' illusions, which are being created in the workers' minds by the Roosevelt Democratic-lynch regime.

"The resolution is a deliberate attempt to replace the few Negro white collar clerks with white clerks. Resolutions such as this coming from so-called leaders, are taken by the white authorities as excellent pretenses for throwing more men out of work.

"It is true that there may be occasional instances of discourtesy on the part of the clerks. Being Negroes, they are undoubtedly 100 per cent more courteous than whites would be in the same jobs. Their forces are also much smaller than relief stations for whites.

"It is plain that the Negro 'leaders' who passed the resolution are lackeys who are attempting to save their own hides, and to stay on good terms with their white bosses."

AUGUSTA, GA.
HERALD

FEB 7 1934

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR NEGROES NEEDED

AUGUSTA, like the average community, has many needs that are desirable as well as essential to the promotion of a better life for its people. Our city, though, is particularly deficient in its provision of means for giving its colored people a better recreational and social outlet.

If we care to look at this matter strictly from a standpoint of law observation and improved relations between the races, then our argument is in no wise weakened.

Augusta's population is almost 40 percent colored and there is no provision made for them in the way of playgrounds or public-supported places for amusement and recreation. It is no more than a matter of justice that this condition be remedied.

A comprehensive service that is being rendered the colored people here in the promotion of their recreational, social and religious life is that performed by the Bethlehem Community House, located on Conklin Avenue, and which has been operating for the benefit of the Negroes for the past 22 years.

This center represents an initial investment of $75,000 by the Woman's Missionary Council of the M. E. Church, South. This church group is contributing to the work at this time the sum of $498.50 monthly. Apart from that fund, contributions from local sources within the past four years have been less than $250.

The Community House employs five full-time workers, most of whom have had specialized training in the field of social work, in addition to their standard college degrees. There are three part-time student workers, who receive room and board for services rendered in community projects. In addition to these there are 49 students doing volunteer service at Bethlehem House or one of its extension projects. Activities are provided for more than 800 people in organized groups. It can be readily seen that this is quite a slim financial budget to handle a work so wide in its scope.

The white and colored leaders who constitute the Advisory Board of the institution are exceedingly desirous that the community as a whole contribute to this work, so that its scope of service may be extended. It is viewed as vital not only to the colored people, but to the well being of Augusta as a community.

On Sunday, February 11, Inter-racial Relations Day is to be observed and this occasion will be used to explain in the churches of Augusta this work among the Negroes by Bethlehem House and to impress upon Augusta people of both races the need for extending this service so that all colored people of the community may be benefitted.

Through the service rendered by this institution the Negroes are taught to be useful, law-abiding citizens, and provision is made for healthful and educational recreation.

The Herald does not hesitate to endorse this public service and to commend the leaders for their civic patriotism. Also we would express the hope that this institution will be given the support it so richly deserves and that the city itself will give serious thought to the matter of recreational facilities for its colored people.

SITE IS SELECTED FOR NEGRO SCHOOL

Nursery Classes, Under CWA Supervisson, to Be Held at Mount Olive Church

By CELETTA CLARKE

The site of the Negro nursery school, which will be one of the 12 home making and nursery school projects conducted here through the aid of CWA funds, will be the Mount Olive Baptist church, Miss Pauline McKinley, county director of CWA women's projects, announced yesterday afternoon.

Atlanta Georgia

Seven rooms at the church are available for use by the nursery school and the kitchen already is equipped, Miss McKinley stated.

The Negroes, said the director, are showing great interest in the project and are busy collecting equipment and supplies.

Three teachers for the school, Jewel Terrill, Julia Belle Brooks and Robert Rogers, have been selected and are at work this week picking the 25 children who will be trained in the school. Each of the prospective pupils is being examined by a nurse from the CWA staff here. The cook for the school has not been named. The school will begin operation Monday.

Toys Wanted

Miss McKinley declared that used toys are needed for the school and that all gifts of old blocks, paints, crayons, dolls, wheel toys and others wil be gratefully received.

Thirteen of the homemaking classes already are under way, the director stated, and others will be started today. At the downtown school, located adjacent to the Y. W. C. A. sewing rooms at the corner of Cherry street and Cotton avenue, Mrs. D. M. Poland is teaching four cooking classes and one clothing class. Mrs. Zelota Parham is instructing four sewing classes and Miss Elizabeth Vigal is conducting a craft class, which was begun only yesterday.

Howard School Starts

Miss Georgia Mae Adams is teaching a cooking class in the Rutland district and will start another class in the Howard section today.

Negro classes in cooking and sewing were begun at the Saxon Memorial school yesterday. Smithy Redd is the teacher.

Another cookin ; class for Negroes, to be taught by Georgia Belle Holbrook, will be started in a store at the corner of Henderson and Charles streets in East Macon today.

Approximately 75 women already are receiving instruction at the various homemaking classes.

Miss McKinley stated that Miss Martha McAlpin, assistant state director of emergency nursery schools, will be in the city either today or tomorrow to review the work that is being done here.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
April 8, 1934

CONSIDERATION URGED OF HOUSING PROTESTS

Consideration of the protests which have been filed against the Techwood

and Atlanta University slum clearance and low-cost housing projects as planned was urged Saturday in a letter to Robert D. Kohn, director of housing of the PWA, by P. C. McDuffie, chairman of a citizens' committee on slum clearance, asking study of Atlanta's needs "so that a great agency for human good will not be utterly destroyed."

McDuffie said that the Techwood project, if carried out as planned, would leave on the east and west sides negro shacks occupying the higher ground and most desirable areas. He recommended turning the project around so it would run east and west, and that all negroes in the area be removed. "Otherwise," he said, "you will have an island of low-cost housing practically surrounded by negroes which in a few years will become suitable only for negroes who can't afford to pay over $10 to $12 a month for an apartment."

"White people will not live in the apartments as planned, and as a matter of fact, low wage earners in the south do not want to bring up their children in apartments," Mr. McDuffie said. "Possibly, apartments along North avenue would be proper, but a substantial part of the building should include individual homes for wage earners which ultimately they might acquire at a fair price."

"Why is it that you co-operate in New York with the municipal housing authority, permit it to make exhaustive studies and investigation, and refuse to co-operate with us in Atlanta, virtually stating that if we don't take the Palmer projects as planned we will be cut off from any participation? That attitude is wrong and if you persist in that position you will utterly destroy a great agency for human good."

Poor Housing in Rural Georgia Is Revealed by Federal Survey

ATHENS, Ga., April 11.—(AP)—A need for better housing facilities in rural Georgia was shown in a preliminary report on results of the federal housing survey in 18 counties.

The survey was conducted over a period of 60 days to provide basic information for a possible home improvement program.

"One deplorable condition is a lack of screens and sanitary facilities," the report said. In one county of nearly 3,000 farm houses, only 376 were screened. Only three-fourths of the homes had unimproved outdoor toilets and one-fourth had no toilets at all.

The survey was conducted by the federal bureau of economics, the bureau of agricultural engineering and the University of Georgia Agricultural Extension Service. Similar studies were made in 300 typical counties over the country.

Provision for storage of perishable foods and water supply were reported inadequate. Poor lighting and heating equipment was also found, Miss Willie Vie Dowdy, extension economist and chairman of the survey said.

Although most of the Georgia data have been tabulated, final results of only one county, Meriwether—in which Warm Springs, President Roosevelt's Georgia home is located—have been released. "This county is not the one referred to in the first part of the report," it was emphasized.

In Meriwether, it was found that of 2,774 homes surveyed, 44 per cent were occupied by white people and the remaining 56 per cent by negroes. The average house contains four rooms, housing an average of five persons; 91 per cent of the homes are one-story structures.

"An average of 53 per cent of the houses were found to be between 25 and 49 years old, 23 per cent between 10 and 24, and 18 per cent over 50 years old. Only 5 per cent were built during the last 10 years."

A majority of the Meriwether county farm home owners desire repairs, and many would like complete replacements, if funds were available. Twenty per cent said they needed additional space, particularly with reference to bedrooms and back porches.

Water is carried by 98 per cent an average of 115 feet to the houses. Home electric plants were found in 37 instances, and 81 of the homes were served from power lines. Ten per cent of those questioned desired installation of fireplaces.

Enumerators found that 93 per cent of the homes are located at an average distance of four miles from the nearest power line, the remaining 7 per cent being less than one-tenth of a mile away from one. Of the latter, 53 per cent have electric lights, while for Meriwether county as a whole, only 4 per cent of the homes are electrically lighted.

Most cooking is done on wood or coal stoves and 8 per cent want new ones.

New York Times

APR 22 1934

NEGRO HOUSING PLAN IS PUSHED IN SOUTH

Condemnation Proceedings Ordered Begun in Atlanta for $2,100,000 Land.

SEEK TO AVOID DELAY

Effect of Government Project on Private Housing Expected to Improve Conditions.

By JULIAN HARRIS.

Editorial Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 19.—PWA, CWA and CCC have been digging up, building up and razing in Georgia in work of the most diverse kinds.

Just now PWA holds the limelight with its housing plans in Atlanta, where court procedure will be invoked to obtain required land. The project involved is the $2,100,000 housing plan for Negroes. To expedite the acquiring of land Secretary Ickes requested Attorney General Cummings to file condemnation proceedings in United States District Court at Atlanta.

The condemnation proceedings will be initiated here by United States District Attorney Lawrence Camp. They involve 134 parcels of land needed to complete an area of 800,000 square feet for the Negro housing project. It is announced that instituting condemnation proceedings is not intended as a threat against property holders in the area selected for the housing plan. Owners of land can negotiate with the government and the transaction carried out even after legal steps to condemn have been taken.

To Prevent Delay.

It is explained that the proposed court action is taken with the hope that unnecessary delay will be obviated. After legal notice has been given the government can file a declaration of taking by depositing a sum of money sufficient to cover the assessed value of the land and take it over at once.

Beyond the interest in the housing project as such, the plan has aroused speculation as to the effect of this adequate type of housing on property rented to Negroes in the South. It is betraying no secret to state that the vast majority of Negro-rented houses in this section are miserable excuses for homes. Repairs are avoided when possible and paint is almost unheard of.

Not only do many owners of Negro property find disrepair profitable, but in many cities the surroundings are permitted to remain unsightly and often unsanitary. It is not unlikely that the government's step in providing a housing plan for Negroes will result in a vast improvement in the type of houses rented to colored people. The improvement will not be rapid, but there is an inclination among those interested in Negro welfare to believe that it is inevitable.

In the words so often quoted by the late Andrew Carnegie, Mr. Ickes may "lay the flattering unction to his soul" that his work as PWA chief in this instance may prove a beneficent beacon for long retarded progress.

Indian Ruins Unearthed.

While the PWA is girding its loins for action here, the CWA has aided in uncovering archaeological ruins of genuine importance to early American history. This reference is to the aid given through CWA employed in excavating near Macon, where Indian mounds have been under investigation.

Directed by Dr. Arthur R. Kelley and James A. Ford, archaeologists in charge of the excavating, CWA workers uncovered a Winter council house of the Indians. According to Mrs. Wayne Patterson of Atlanta, who has made a study of the Indians of the Southeast, the finding of the early Winter council house or ceremonial chamber is a most interesting discovery near Macon to ethnologists and to students of Southeastern Indian culture.

It is, says Mrs. Patterson, the largest ceremonial chamber discovered in America, and is the most perfectly preserved council house uncovered in this county by archaeologists. She believes it to be the most ancient and earliest structure of religious architecture ever found in this part of the United States.

There are many other mounds in the vicinity of Macon awaiting excavation, but work has been stopped because the CWA aid ceased on April 1. Georgians interested in this work are hopeful that John Collier, Indian Commissioner, will use his influence to prevent this work from lagging.

Develop Stephens Memorial.

In the meantime, CCC workers have been aiding in the development of the Alexander H. Stephens Memorial Park which surrounds Liberty Hall, the home of one who is regarded by many as the South's ablest and most tolerant statesman of the Civil War and reconstruction days. The memorial park is a State project, the land having been deeded to Georgia by the Stephens Monumental Association and the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

The work of restoring the Stephens home is in charge of Mrs. Horace Holden, who praises the CCC workers for their intelligent cooperation. The CCC has built thirteen miles of road in the park and has aided in renovating the home itself.

ANSWER TO MR. BUSTIN

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

I read with great interest the letter from Benj. A. Bustin, which you published on May 15.

Mr. Bustin painted a pathetic picture of the old colored woman sitting on the steps of the relief office waiting for a food order. If Mr. Bustin had taken the trouble to inquire, he would have learned that it was not necessary for the old woman to sit there and wait all day. The aides in this office visit each of their clients at least every ten days. If the old woman had remained at home, her food order would have been brought to her with no effort on her part.

Time and time again these people have been told to stay at home and that they would be visited and their wants attended to. But as is the way of humans, they insist on hanging around the relief office for fear that "some of them things will come in and they won't get their share."

And as for the poor old white couple starving to death, that was a laugh. This same couple has been given the essentials, even some of the luxuries of life. It is the only family in Hancock county to receive a rocking chair from the relief! The old man is an invalid so this chair was given him to make his last days more comfortable.

In reply to the Ishmaelite's statement to the effect that this family had not received its just deserts, a letter was written to the editor in which the relief itemized the supplies received by this family. Besides the medical attention given, they received over $23 for food and surplus commodities such as pork, flour, lard, butter and canned beef. A member of this family was given work and she received $60 for this work which covered a period of about two months.

A letter was written to the editor of the Ishmaelite, requesting that he publish it, but he refused. In this letter this sum of money was mentioned and the reasons why the members of this family received work.

AN AIDE.

Hancock Emergency Relief Committee.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1934

Georgia

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
October 21, 1934

Atlanta's *1,481 PWA* Apartments

Low-Cost Homes for 804 White and 677 Colored Families Will Be Provided by the Techwood and University Housing Projects, Now Under Way. The Developments Will Cost $5,000,000, and Are Expected to Provide Jobs for 2,000 Workmen of All Classes

BY FRED DENTON MOON

"MISTER, we want to get one of those new apartments on Techwood Drive."

The PWA official smiled kindly at the couple who had somehow managed to invade his office. The youth was awkward and a little confused, the girl pretty and shy. That they were very much in love was obvious.

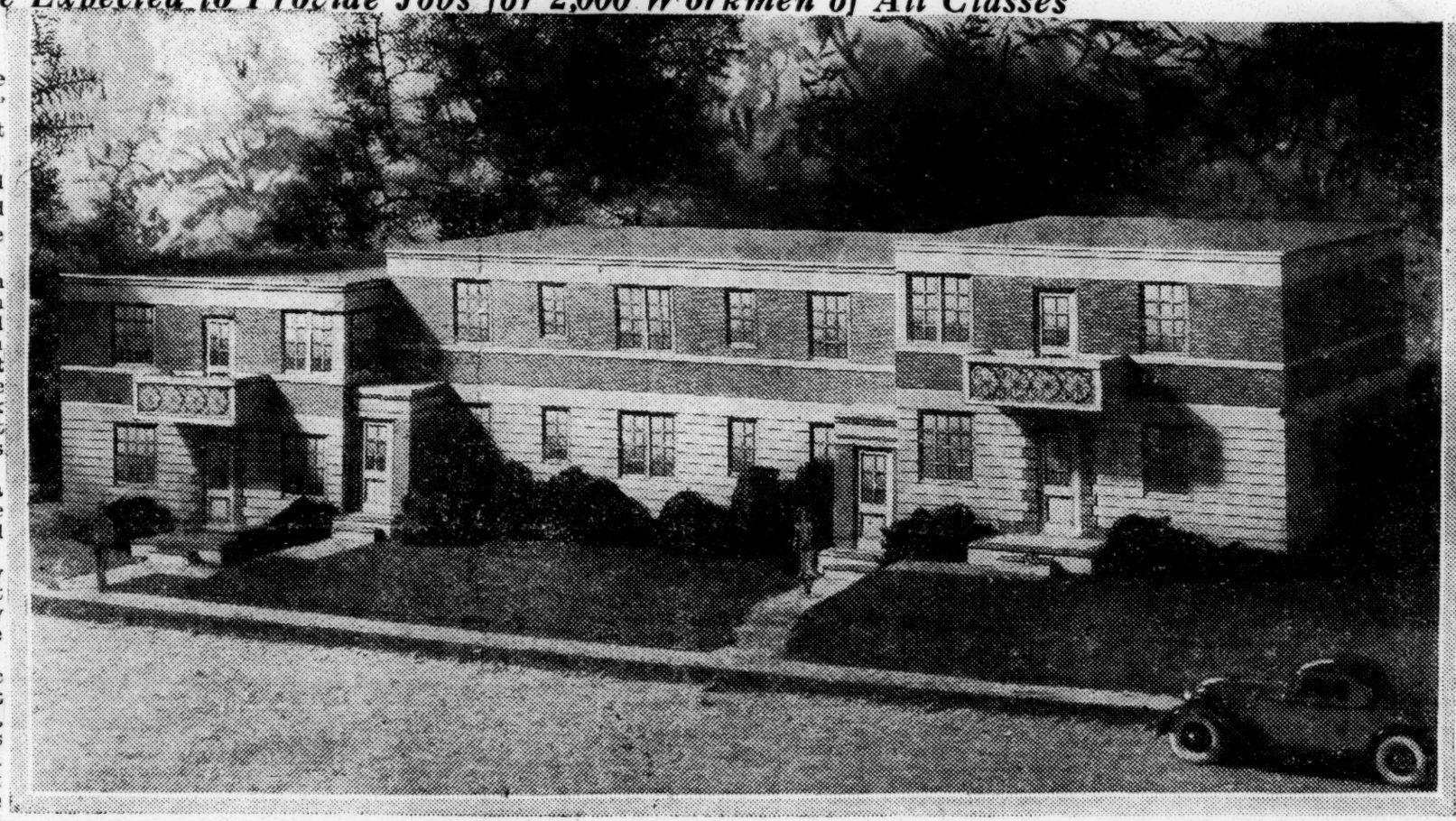
Patiently the official explained to them that he had no apartments. Work on the Techwood low-cost housing project had not even begun. Construction of its ten blocks of modern buildings could not start until the houses now on the area were cleared away, and this phase of the work was just being launched. It would be at least a year before any of the apartments would be ready for occupancy.

Regretfully, a little downcast, but not a whit less romantic, the youth and the girl took their leave. The official smiled after them.

"We have a dozen like them in here every day," he said. "When the Techwood project is finished, Atlanta is going to see a new record chalked up at the marriage license bureau."

The Housing Division of the Public Works Administration did not set out with the intention of encouraging Cupid, its object being to provide modern homes at low cost to people with modest incomes. But, surely, no people have a more modest income than the average prospective bride and groom, and for that reason many a marriage is going to date from the day the new apartments are thrown open.

But prospective brides and grooms are not the only people interested in the two huge PWA housing projects now under way, one in the Techwood Drive section, the other in the colored residential section near the Atlanta University. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of families whose salaries and incomes have been reduced by the depression, are eagerly looking forward to their completion. In fact, the attention of the whole country is centered upon Atlanta's two projects, for they represent the Federal Government's first experience in building low-cost homes for its citizens. Germany, England, Russia and most of the other European countries have long established government home-building programs, but not until the birth of the New Deal did Uncle Sam decide to follow their lead. And he chose Atlanta as his starting point.



Edwards & Sayward, Architects.

Model of one of the apartment houses to be erected on the University project.

"That is why we have had to progress slowly and change our plans frequently," explained D. A. Calhoun, federal supervisory manager of the projects. "At every step it has been up to us to set a precedent rather than to follow one. We had no model, no guide. There will be many similar projects launched in other parts of the country, but Atlanta is the pioneer. What we do here will be done by others elsewhere."

He sat back from his desk, smiled a smile that contained both satisfaction and relief, and added, "We are ready now for the other cities to follow our lead. We are satisfied that we have established the best and cheapest layout possible. We started work today."

By that he meant that on the morning he was interviewed for this article a gang of several hundred laborers started demolishing the shacks and shanties on the University project. A few days later another gang was scheduled to begin wrecking the slums on the Techwood site. Officially the demolition began on September 20 when Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes came to Atlanta to launch the $150,000,000 national slum clearance program by dynamiting a building on each of the two sites.

According to Mr. Calhoun, both areas are expected to be cleared early in November, after which the task of grading and construction will begin. The two projects will progress simultaneously, and both will be finished within a year. When completed they will represent an expenditure of $5,000,000 of Federal PWA funds. Of this sum, $800,000 has already been paid out for the land included in the two sites. Jobs for 2,000 workmen of all classes will be provided by the projects, Mr. Calhoun stated.

Condemnation proceedings to obtain title to the land in the combined areas started early in the year and were concluded in July. Parcels of property acquired in the Techwood project numbered 104, and in University, 134. Approximately $500,000 was disbursed to the Techwood owners, and $286,000 to the University owners.

The Techwood project, known as "Tech Bottoms," is located within a stone's throw of downtown Atlanta. It extends five blocks along Techwood Drive from Mills Street to North Avenue, and is bounded by Williams Street on the east and Lovejoy Street on the west. It covers 22 acres, or 1,067,135 square feet.

The University project lies at the gates of Atlanta and Spelman Universities. It covers 17.5 acres, or 762,685 square feet.

A feature of both projects is that the buildings will cover only about 25 per cent of the land space, the remaining ground being utilized for playground, garden and other purposes.

As pointed out by Mr. Calhoun, the general plans of the projects have been changed many times during the past six or eight months but are now complete almost to the smallest detail. The two illustrations which appear on this page are new, and one of the colored apartment units.

The Techwood development consists of twenty-nine separate buildings, including a unit of six stores and a 160-room dormitory at the North Avenue corner for the use of

The drawing at the bottom of the page gives a perspective view of the entire Techwood project as conceived by Burge & Stevens, Atlanta architects. The upper illustra-

Georgia Tech students. There will be 804 apartments in the residence units, containing 2,163 rooms, exclusive of the 160-room dormitory. Three hundred and forty-two garages will also be provided. Construction costs are estimated at $2,000,000.

The style of architecture employed in Techwood is defined by Flippen Burge, of Burge & Stevens, as "a modernized adaptation of the Georgian," a style which, he points out, symbolizes the thoroughly modern treatment of the entire development.

"The buildings will be of two and three-story brick construction, and fireproof throughout," he stated. "There will be two types of apartment buildings; the open court and the row house. The former will face on Techwood Drive and provide 744 standard size two, three and four-room apartments. The buildings contain no corridors, thus assuring full cross ventilation for each apartment unit.

"The row house type buildings, which will face the streets that intersect Techwood Drive in the project area, will contain fifty-seven two-floor units of five and six rooms each. The row house units will have individual entrances and private back yards.

"The Tech dormitory at the north end of the area will be of similar construction to the apartment buildings. It will be divided into three-room units, each unit consisting of a study and two bedrooms. It will accommodate 350 students."

Many innovations, architectural and otherwise, will be featured in the Techwood development. For example, all roofs will be insulated against heat, and metal windows and trim throughout will make the buildings vermin and rat-proof. Floors will be of sanitary asphalt tile except in kitchens and bathrooms, where permanent linoleum flooring will be laid. The walls will be so durable that a fire hose could be used to wash them down without damage. Each apartment will be wired for radio connections, and each will contain an electric refrigerator and gas range.

The basements of several of the buildings will house completely equipped laundries which will be available to the tenants without charge. One basement will contain a kindergarten, another a circulating library, another a community auditorium. The unit of stores will house grocers, butchers, bake shops, etc., with upstairs offices for doctors, dentists and others whose services are essential to the welfare of a community of several thousand souls.

The project will be landscaped from one end to the other, streets graded and paved, trees planted and electric poles and wires replaced by a white way system. In addition to the playground space provided in the apartment courts, a large community playground will be constructed. There will be several tennis courts and a number of small park spaces.

Heat and hot water will be provided for tenants without extra cost, and the housing division is endeavoring now to work out a system of flat rates for public utilities. If this arrangement can be made, a specific charge can be paid along with the rent to cover the monthly electric and gas bill.

The University project will follow the same general plan as Techwood, except that an individual entrance is provided for every apartment in the entire unit.

Construction plans at University, according to W. J. Sayward, of Edwards & Sayward, architects, call for an expenditure of approximately $1,600,000. There will be 42 independent buildings, including a block for stores and a community house; 677 apartments containing 2,395 rooms, and garages for 60 cars.

Like Techwood, the buildings will be of two and three-story construction and will be absolutely fireproof. The space for the 677 families is divided as follows: One hundred and two two-room apartments; 204 three-room apartments; 276 four-room apartments; 95 five-room apartments. There will be five community laundries in addition to a laundry tub in each apartment. Parks, playgrounds and other recreation facilities will be similar to those at Techwood.

Naturally, the question everybody is asking is: What will the "low cost" apartments rent for?

But this, said Mr. Calhoun, is one of the very few questions concerning the development that cannot be answered definitely.

"I can give you the approximate figures," he said, 'but they are not to be regarded as final. According to present estimates, the rental at Techwood will be $5.50 to $7.50 per room per month, and at University, $4.50 to $7.50 per room per month.

"And we hope to be able to reduce them still more," Mr. Calhoun added.

No wonder lovers are postponing their marriages until the time when they can rent a cozy new apartment for $15.00 per mo[illegible]

Better Housing Drive Draws Interest; Many to Get Jobs

The Housing Survey being sponsored by the Citizens Trust Company, with the view of expanding the Better Housing Campaign now underway here in Atlanta, is fast gathering momentum and creating interest. The above group of West Side Majors, officials of the Housing Campaign and Survey, together with interested individuals assembled Tuesday evening at tthe Home Office of the Atlanta Life Insurance company, and received initial instructions regarding the survey and campaign. This group, it was announced by Major Harry L. Burns, Assistant Regional Direction of the National Housing Administration, is the first colored group to be assembled anywhere in the country to foster a survey under the National Housing Administration. Consequently, the eyes of the entire country are focused upon Atlanta, and the results of this cursey and campaign will be broadcast far and wide. It is gratifying to all concerned to note the increasing interest being manifested in the survey.

According to Mr. C. E. Lovett Director of the Greater Atlanta Better Housing Campaign there are 49,000 homes and other properties in need of repairs here in the City of Atlanta. Of this number 29,000 are unfit for habitation and some 20,000 are in need of structural repairs. It is estimated that if only a small percentage of these property owners would agree to make the repairs which are needed to their property, most of which they have deferred, it will put into circulation in Atlanta more than $3,000,000,000 and provide jobs for thousands of laborers, both skilled and unskilled. It has been agreed that the return of prosperity can come only through the reemployment of the millions of idle workers, many of whom are suffering from untold privation, and primarily because money is lying idle in the vaults of the banks with no special effort being manifested to put it into circulation. The National Housing Act proposes to move at least a portion of this idle money out of the banks and put it into circulation through the reemployment of labor. This is to be done in a number of various ways. The particular phase of the Act which is being pushed at this time, is, as has been pointed out, to get those who own homes, business property, tenant property or property of any kind which is delapidated, run down, in any state of disrepair or in need of any kind of renovation or remodernization, to begin NOW to do what is necessary to this property. To do this, it has been made possible for the property owner to go to his banker and obtain from him a direct character loan, with which to make the necessary repairs. Nothing could be of greater help in the return of 'better times' than to have "every idle worker made a wage earner". Then and only then can business and professional men, as well as businesses themselves, increase their incomes and profits.

Majors for the various sections of the West side have definitely been assigned according to word from the General Manager of the subdivided into six sections with Survey. The West Side has been a Major in charge of each section. Section A, Mrs. Josephine Dibble-Murphy; Section B, Harold H. Thomas; Section C, Carl D. Smith; Section D, J. H. Smith; Section E, Mr. L. J. Harper; Section F, Theo. M. Alexander.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1934

DANVILLE, ILL.
COMMERCIAL NEWS
FEB 20 1934

"THE LONELIEST MAN"

The negro was pictured as "The Loneliest Man in the World," by Miss Lillian Mason, colored social worker, in a talk before the Fellowship Club of the St. James M. E. church. She pictured the lowered standard of living of the negro as caused by the fact that regardless of intellectual and other achievements he must still occupy the same social rank of his less fortunate fellows.

She stressed the fact that the "Bottoms," in which the greater part of the negro population of Danville lives was an "eyesore to the entire state." Other social workers visiting Danville have pronounced the slum district in this city as the worst in the state. It has long been an eyesore to the better-thinking people of Danville. The federal government has appropriated funds for the cleaning up of slum districts in cities and she suggested that Danville might avail itself of this opportunity, which would bring better living conditions to the negro.

The negro has made a remarkable advancement since the days of slavery. He should be commended for his accomplishment. There is much truth in what Miss Mason says about the dire need for improvement of his living conditions. Schools and churches can do little toward the betterment of a people condemned to live in hovels.

Several years ago a suggested program for the beautifying of Danville included the razing of the shacks and hovels in the "Bottoms" and the creation of a parkway along Stony Creek. This suggestion died in its infancy, but its value as a public improvement project is just as great today as it was at the time it was made.

A CWES recreational center for colored people is already under way and we have suggested that it be made permanent. Recreational facilities have been badly needed for this class of people. Public spirited members of the race have done much to help themselves along these lines and they have earned the earnest cooperation of the white people. Even a cursory survey of the situation will convince anyone that the social world of the negro is restricted as far as the better things of life are concerned.

This is a situation that demands the serious consideration of the better-thinking men and women of both races. It has never been given this consideration in Danville. The racial problem should not be permitted to stifle the growth of the negro people. The problem is controversial in the extreme and that is the main factor in the retarding of the development of any social improvement program.

U.S. Housing Plan Given South Side

Secretary Harold L. Ickes, PWA administrator announces from Washington this week that $25,000,000 had been earmarked for Chicago's low-cost housing program, seven millions of which is to be spent on the South side. The 35 acres embrace the territory north of 39th street and from South Parkway to Cottage Grove avenue. The boundaries are South Parkway, 37th street, Cottage Grove avenue, 38th street, Langley avenue and 39th street.

Almost a year ago the committee submitted to the Federal Housing authorities a complete detailed recommendation for low cost housing and had numerous conferences both with Federal and state authorities emphasizing the advantages of the site submitted and the needs of the community.

The proposal originally submitted to the government by the Citizens Housing Committee called for an expenditure of $18,000,000 and covered the district from 35th to 39th streets, from Cottage Grove to Rhodes avenue. South Parkway, while admitted to be the logical western boundary, had been purposely omitted in the proposal due to the higher cost of property and the fact that the government had insisted that cost must be held to a very low figure. The government approved project is not as elaborate as submitted, at the same time it takes in most of the territory recommended by the committee, namely 37th to 39th street and extends on the west to South Parkway instead of Rhodes avenue.

The committee feels that a large part of the credit in connection with its efforts should be credited to the Chicago Urban League, which had a great deal to do with the organization of the committee and that special credit should be given to Charles S. Duke, architect and engineer, a Harvard graduate who worked for many weeks without compensation in the making of blue prints and assembling of technical information.

Rents Cheap

The project will replace shabby conditions with modern, healthful, airy buildings surrounded by lawns and trees. The buildings will occupy only about 30 per cent of the site, the remainder being devoted to park, recreational and community space.

The building units will be arranged to afford apartments a maximum of light and air. Living quarters will have modern equipment and will be laid out to provide greatest convenience and comfort for the occupants.

WORK ALREADY STARTED ON 35-ACRE TRACT

2,000 Home-owners Asked To Sell Property to Government

CHICAGO.— (ANP) — Startling but inspiring announcement was made here Wednesday, October 24 that the federal government had started condemnation proceedings here in connection with property now on a 35-acre tract which is to be the site of a huge $7,000,000 housing project in one of the most neglected areas in the so-called Negro district.

Associate director of the PWA, F. J. C. Dresser, made the announcement.

"We selected this area only after we were thoroughly satisfied with the agreement of five local groups," he said, "that the chosen site is a genuinely blighted area and the area of the south side most in need of clearance and new housing, all things considered."

Petition Has 2,000 Names

The condemnation proceedings were begun in the federal district court before Judge Philip Sullivan. More than 2,000 names, those of property owners, are attached to the petition.

The government intends to pay the fair current market price for the land and buildings now in the area. Some property owners have already agreed to sell. In cases where the owners ask more than the government feels the property is worth, the issue will be placed before a jury.

Five southside groups interested in community betterment co-operated in selecting the site and making plans with the government for the project. The Negro group, headed by Wilson Lovett, treasurer of the Supreme Liberty Life insurance company, is known as the Citizens' Housing committee, and includes in its membership, former Judge Albert B. George, A. L. Foster, executive secretary of the Chicago Urban League; George Arthur, executive secretary of the Y. M. C. A.; Mrs. Lillian Summers, social work supervisor; Charles S. Duke, structural engineer, and Robert R. Taylor, manager of the Michigan Boulevard Garden apartments.

Realtors Oppose Housing Project Tells Why White

The Oakland Business Men's association headed by Clarence Poffen Berger, (white) who is also cashier of the Drexel State bank, at a recent meeting went on record as opposing the erection of low cost housing on Chicago's near South side as decided on by the Federal Housing Administration.

The association expressed its opinion that plans for a low cost housing on the South side be dropped but if a project were attempted that it should be located between 47th and 53rd street, Wabash avenue and the Rock Island railroad.

It is believed that the objections given by the Oakland Business Men's association are merely a smoke screen to hide the interest of real estate dealers and other outside interests whose income may be affected as to reduced purchases, sales and rentals in the area.

Recall Old Plan

Some year or two ago a group of real estate operators met downtown and announced their intention to reclaim and rehabilitate the near South side district from Michigan avenue to the Lake and from the loop to 55th street for white collar workers. The plan was to erect apartment hotels and small residences for loop workers in this area. It was stated that these people would be glad to come back to a rebuilt area where they were only fifteen minutes from the loop and where land was sufficient for gardens and shrubbery. It was pointed out that the land cost in this district was less than in suburban areas.

Information furnished to The Chicago Defender indicates that the residents of the district itself including a large majority of the property owners as well as civic and other organizations are enthusiastic not only because of the proposed improvement but because of the increased employment which will likely be afforded. Perhaps the most active organization in support of the administration's program is the Citizens' Housing committee.

Following a conference with Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins on November 19, 1933, this committee was organized to represent the near South side community in relation to a public housing program. Among the organizations represented on the committee are the American Legion, the A.M.E. Ministers' alliance, the Baptist Ministers' alliance, the Interracial commission, the Chicago Urban League; Wabash Avenue Y.M.C.A., the Social Service Round Table, the South Central Community council,—together with a number of labor organizations.

Push Housing Program

In November of 1933, this committee made a study of an appropriate location for a Federal Housing project and submitted to the Federal Housing Administraiton a detailed proposal together with blue prints, estimates as to cost of construction, operating cost, etc. This information and proposal was submitted both to the Federal Housing Administration at Washington and to Col. Horatio B. Hackett, in addition to State housing authorities. The site finally selected by the government was somewhat less in area than proposed by the committee but included practically all of the territory which was originally recommended.

According to Wilson Lovett, chairman of the Citizens' Housing committee, those who live in the district as well as the leaders of the near South side community are practically one hundred per cent for the government project. His statement further

calls attention to the fact that while some opposition outside of the district has been voiced as to the project that this has been mostly on the part of certain real estate interests whose income may be somewhat affected as to purchases, sales and rentals in the area.

Among the questions raised by these interests is as to the disposition of the people now living in the district, on the assumption that they may or may not be able to pay the six or seven dollar monthly rental per room which may be charged. A survey of the district indicates that rentals are porportionately higher than they are in other sections of the city and shows that the amount being charged now per room ranges from $4.50 to $7.00 per room, with no heat furnished and in most cases in old dilapidated and unsanitary buildings. In addition to the money cost there is, of course, the health hazard as well as the cost to the city itself by reason of non-payment of taxes, increased fire risk and crime conditions.

In co-operation with the Citizens' Housing committee, the South Central Community council is arranging a public mass meeting to give community expression to larger aspects of the housing program particularly as to its effects on the near South side community. Secretary of the Interior, Ickes, has been invited as the principal speaker, and it is intended to hold the meeting in the Savoy auditorium.

Indiana

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

3 Social Workers Replaced in Shakeup

Recorder

Reorganization of the work of handling relief cases in the city has resulted in the recent replacement of three social workers. 2-10-34

Mrs. Julia Scales, Mrs. Elizabeth Douglas, and Mrs. Marie Long, who were employed by the Township trustee's office have been succeeded in the new set-up by Mrs. Bills Mrs. Jane Priestly and Miss Esther Porter.

Indianapolis Indiana

Mrs. Katherine Grissom has been transferred from the staff of workers for the Family Welfare society. Others, who were retained and bring the number of colored workers under supervision of federal officials to seven are: Mrs. Emma Moore, Mrs. Hattie Butler and Mrs. Patsy Valentine.

Mrs. Scales and Mrs. Douglas were appointed three years ago by Miss Hannah Noone, the Township trustee upon her assumption of office.

RACE RELATIONS

There are a great many interracial committees existing throughout the United States and it is our observation that their membership is made up almost entirely of the "Elite" of the particular community.

The 'Elite" who are not very familiar with conditions among, nor particluarly sympathetic towards the common masses of their group could not reasonably be expected to understand or to be sympathetic towards the common masses of another group.

Not only the "Elite" but the masses of the white group as well, have permitted themselves to say (whether they believe it or not) when they come in contact with a colored person, posessing the same intelligence as that which they possess, 'You act like a white person", or "You don't act like the rest of your people.'

9-14-34

The fact is, the vast majority of even the best class of white people don't know and won't interest themselves to find out what is being accomplished by the Colored people in the way of intellectual attainments.

We observe that just last week, the Women's Missionary Union, a White Organization, sent its greetings to the Colored Women's Auxiliary to the National Baptist Convention then in conference in the city of Muskogee, Okla., in which the members of the Women s Missionary Union expressed the hope that the White and Colored Women of the United States may be able to solve the race problem. Very recently the same group of Southern White women criticised very severely their northern White sisters for not showing the same interest in race relations.

We notice also in recent months the metropolitan dailies have devoted a lot of space to the intellectual accomplishments of the Colored race, as for example, the artists who made the pageant 'O Sing A New Song," such a glowing success and the superintendent of the John Stewart Memorial Settlement Home, (Gary) who with his co-workers have made the Stewart House such an important factor in this community and, who has done so much to create friendly relations between the races.

We believe that when White American Citizens reconcile themselves to the fact that Colored American citizens, and the so-called 'Rece Problem which White neighbors, and are as much entitled to economic existence as their White neighbors, there will be a disposition toward a changed attitude on the part of White American citizens concerning Colored American citzens, nd the so called "Race Problem' which after all is not much more than a "mole hill", will not seem the 'mountain" it is made to appear.

It is our belief that if the metropolitan dailies will continue their fair attitude concerning the publishing the admirable qualities and intellectual attainments of the Colored Race, and the women of the White Race assume a fairer attitude toward the women of the Colored Race, the time is not far distant when the entire white race will become cognizant of the fact that the Colored Race has capabilities worthy of their commendation, rather than their condemnation. And that the Colored race is at home in America and must be permitted to earn their living or be supported by one form of charity or another.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
NEWS

SEP 8 1934

WHO PAYS THE RENT?

Plans for clearing away so-called slum districts include the razing of structures not considered fit for human habitation. In their stead apartments of varying sizes will be erected. Rentals have not yet been agreed on, but in some cities where these federal programs have been adopted the average rent has been fixed at $6 monthly for each room. Thus a three-room apartment would rent for $18 a month.

Considerable areas of property will be vacated, new housing units will replace the old. In Indianapolis the site of the government's operations is largely occupied by Negro tenants. None of them has lived in ideal surroundings, but each has lived in the best place he could afford to rent. Many families had been unable to pay their rent for the last few years. Some were helped by public funds, others could do nothing to keep down the growing arrearages. These tenants, unable to pay rentals as low as $4, $5 and $6 a month, must now seek new quarters. Thus the finding of social workers in other cities threatens to come true here — the destruction of a low-rent district in one area simply means the beginning of another elsewhere.

The financial problem that has to be solved is how persons who can not pay rent in the slum districts can pay two or three times as much for government-built apartments. The federal authorities are affected by a sort of idealism that fails to take into consideration the men and women the project is de-

STARVED NEGRO MECHANICS

The proposed slum clearance project in Indianapolis is scheduled to be started immediately.

Announcement to this effect was made by Frank C. Dailey, government attorney, following the formal withdrawal of its remonstrance against the work by the Indianapolis Water company.

Thus the last legal obstacle has been removed from astride the path of a Federal movement the success of which should be desired by every right thinking citizen of this community. 11-10-34

A primary objective of the local slum clearance plan is revealed in the government's endeavor to create needed employment for the people. Indianapolis

Since that is a requisite of immense and immediate economic importance to our city as a whole there is no reason whatever why the scheme should not receive the

undivided support of the entire citizenry.

The area affected by this housing project is bounded by Indiana avenue Locke, Walnut, and Blake streets.

It is inhabited wholly by members of our group.

Such being the case, we are justified in suggesting to local representatives of the administration that Negro workers, skilled and unskilled, be given a just share of the employment to be afforded by the slum clearance project.

This newspaper regards it as an inseparable public duty to call Attorney Dailey's immediate attention to the fact that of all the skilled workers in Indianapolis Negro mechanics have been throughout the depression and still are the greatest sufferers for the want of employment. They are a starved lot.

In view of this circumstance we are depending upon the administration to see that these capable citizens are given the consideration due them when the slum clearance project is started.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

New Orleans, La., Item
March 23, 1934

Better Housing For Negroes Is Discussed

Health and better housing condition for Negroes was the subject of the annual message of Rev. George W. Williams, president of the Westside Negro Missionary Baptist association, before the session of that body Thursday in Gretna.

National Negro Health Week will be observed in Negro churches and schools throughout the country April 1-6, Rev. Williams announced.

Rev. W. H. Bolden spoke on the need of a better trained Negro ministry, and urged the younger men to make thorough preparation for leadership in the churches. Sallie C. Wade, president of the Woman's Baptist state convention, asked the women of the state to raise $1000 this year for Leland college at Baker, Louisiana, and Coleman college at Gibsland. A debate on "Resolved: That the powers of the President should be substantially increased," between Xavier college and Lemoyne college of Memphis, will be held at Xavier college at 8 p. m. Monday.

MARSHALL, TEX.
MESSENGER

MAR 30 1934

Rural Housing Survey In Claiborne

(From the Shreveport Journal)

The government's rural housing survey in Claiborne Parish, La., one of the 300 counties designated in all sections of the country for the purpose, has just been completed by a corps of workers under E. H. Stelzig of Haynesville, and much of the information secured is presented in a recent issue of the Haynesville News. After visiting every farmhouse in the parish, the men who made the survey report that it will require an expenditure of something over $9,500,000 to put all farmhouses and premises in proper condition. The staggering figures presented in some detail, show thse sums are needed:

Total for repairs, alterations and replacements of rural homes, white owners, $37,658.70; white tenants, $227,019.38; negro owners, $204,658.32; negro tenants, $670,301.86.

Total additions to present houses, white owners, $304,116; white tenants, $161,569.36; negro owners, $3,407.20; negro tenants, $98,262.72.

Total for new houses, white owners, $601,492; white tenants, $613,611.60; negro owners, $1,065,598.80; negro tenants, $4,142,080.60.

Total for water supply and sewerage, white owners, $932.50; white tenants, $1,050; negro owners, $519; negro tenants, $3,588.

Total for lights and heat, white owners, $1,635; white tenants, $2,280; negro owners, $240; negro tenants, $990.

Total for refrigeration, laundry and cooking facilities, white owners, $2,085; white tenants, $195; negro owners, $2,450; negro tenants, $11,810.

Total for landscaping of house, white owners, $7,430; white tenants, $2,297.50; negro owners, $3,260; negro tenants, $10,140.

The figures given above are based on present cost of labor and material. But in addition to these estimates the report contains much other data that are interesting. They include a statement that 75 per cent of the tenant homes in the parish are beyond repair and will have to be entirely rebuilt. The survey lists the total number of farm homes, number of rooms in each, number of occupants, kind of water supply, number of panes of glass required, new floor coverings needed, number of new stoves and beds, amount of painting and screening, and a vast multitude of detailed information for which the federal authorities asked.

Just what is expected to be done with the information after it has been compiled, and why there was no survey of urban communities in Claiborne parish, the Haynesville News did not know. Nor has it been made plain in any authorized statement from Washington, so far as we have been able to discover. But it may be expected as a plausible theory, we think, that the data are being gathered as part of a government plan whereby money may be furnished for rural home improvements at a low rate of interest and on long time, in the expectation of making rural life more attractive and more convenient.

Since this information is being secured from counties in all the states, it is to be presumed the plan will be a nation-wide affair. There are, for instance, 63 rural parishes in the state of Louisiana; if all of these require as much of an outlay as will be needed in Claiborne, it means $567,000,000 would have to be spent in this state, alone, to put every rural home in the condition it should be. This sum, multiplied by 48 states, gives a total of $27,216,000,000—more than the entire public debt of the United States at the present time. However, while there is no present prospect of spending any such amount, but it cannot be doubted that the need for improvements is very real and very urgent.

Alexandria, La. Town Talk
August 18, 1934

NEGRO COLLEGE WILL BE USED

Lampton Building to Be Transient Home For Colored

The old Lampton negro college, located on Vance avenue, has been acquired by Byron Hemphill, director of the Alexandria Division of the Federal Transient Bureau, and it will be converted into use for a negro division of the bureau, according to announcement today.

This college occupied a whole square of ground, on which besides the commodious three-story brick building, are two large frame buildings. Mr. Hemphill has also acquired a tract of 150 acres of land upon which he expects to grow a large part of the food, which is required every day by the bureau.

"Mr. Hemphill believes it is a fine thing for every workable to do a day's work for a day's pay," said a citizen who has given some study to this subject, "and he has found the men are willing to work if given an opportunity. All of the work in and about the bureau, aside from the purely technical part of the program, is done by transients. It is remarkable how many trained men are put to work by the bureau in its various departments, all of whom are taken from the ranks.

"A visit to the headquarters at 148 Wheelock avenue, where any of the staff will be glad to show visitors over the building, will be a revelation to any one who takes the time and makes the effort to find out what is really going on at the bureau."

Mr. Hemphill has had special training and wide experience in this line of work and is making the local bureau one of the outstanding institutions in the country.

"I wonder what has become of all the men who used to come to my back-door asking for food and funds," said an elderly matron at a meeting of one of Alexandria's leading feminine organizations recently. "I never, or almost never have a caller any more." she continued. For a moment or two, no one ventured an answer. Finally one of them said, that since the organization of the Transient Home last fall, the visits from these unfortunates had become almost a rarity. A show of hands brought out the astounding fact that only three members of the group of over twenty, could report havng had a transient visitor, during the previous month.

New Orleans, La., Item
November 30, 1934

Negro Social Work Outlined

The Negro's share in federal relief, continued attention to his educational wants by private foundations and the awakening of interest in welfare work and social service are causes for thanksgiving by members of the race here, Rev. H. H. Dunn asserted in an address at the annual Thanksgiving exercises at Straight college, 2420 Canal street, Thursday.

Governmental efforts represented by the FERA, the PWA housing division, the Home Owner's Loan corporation and the Farm Loan act have all tended to the improvement of the Negro's condition, he stated.

"Here in New Orleans, $500,000 federal emergency aid is administered monthly to 21,700 persons, of which number 14,100 are Negroes," he said. "The Community Chest last year contributed $30,000 to nine Negro agencies. This year a similar amount is pledged and the Negroes are asked to raise the sum of $10,000 in support of their own work."

Other Funds

Other sums reported were those made available for Negro education and social work, $500,000 by the American Missionary association, $713,300 by the general education board and $529,295 for philanthropic work by the Julius Rosenwald fund. This year the emphasis has been shifted from building to educational investigation and higher education of teachers, Rev. Dunn said.

Louisiana Negro schools are attended by 180,708 children and call for the annual expenditure of $1,592,077.03, employing 2,348 teachers, he stated, while 6,100 Negro adults are enrolled in the ERA scholos of the state.

Dillard To Open

"Both Straight college, 2420 Canal street, and New Orleans university, 5318 St. Charles avenue, are holding their final sessions in their present sites," Rev. Dunn declared. "The new Dillard university on Gentilly avenue, which absorbs the two old institutions, plans to open next fall. Six units of the first group of buildings of the new university are now nearing completion. They consist of a library building, refectory and social hall, a dormitory for men and one for women and a power house. The completion of the group of buildings, including the purchase of land, involves an expenditure of $1,348,000.

"The Flint-Goodridge hospital, the first unit of the university, is functioning most efficiently as a health center for Negroes, and for the training of nurses and physicians. Albert W. Dent, superintendent of the hospital, states that during the year the hospital has increased its occupancy and that approximately 55 percent of all its patients receive free service. About 20 percent are charity patients. The hospital clinic is now averaging about 1600 visits per month as compared with an average of 1400 visits last vear."

Social Conditions, Improvement of-1934

Maryland

Columbia, Tenn., Daily Herald
February 21, 1934

DR. ALEXANDER MAKES PLEA FOR NEGRO WOMEN

Globe and Independent
2-23-34

Baltimore, Md., Feb.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—Two hundred and fifty persons were present at the Third Annual Dinner Meeting of the Baltimore Urban League held at the Cosmopolitan Community Church last Thursday, February 8th.

Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander, former Assistant Solicitor of the City of Philadelphia, was the principal speaker. She made an eloquent plea that more adequate consideration be given to the Negro woman in the recovery program. Miss Anne D. Ward, Director of the Baltimore Emergency Relief Commission mission, was the other speaker. Music was furnished by the City-Wide Young Peoples Forum and the dinner was sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary headed by Mrs. R. Garland Chissell.

The report of the League's secretary, Edward S. Lewis, included the opening up of opportunities for six new colored case workers, a Negro interviewer in the United States Re-employment Service and two Negro interviewers in the transiency service of the Government. This is the first time in the history of Baltimore that Negroes have been given an opportunity to administer to the welfare needs of their people on mixed staffs. A comprehensive survey of Negro life in Baltimore, the first of its kind, is being initiated by Ira De A. Reid, Director of the Department of Research of the National Urban League this week.

Massachusetts.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

BOSTON, MASS.
TRANSCRIPT

FEB 5 1934

Many Children and Negroes Getting Relief

Average Payment Per Family Aided in Bay State in November $32.99

By Oliver McKee, Jr.

Special to the Transcript:

Washington, Feb. 5—The average relief payment to a family in Massachusetts in November was $32.99, as compared with the average for the continental United States of $18.22, according to figures presented to the House Appropriations Committee by Harry Hopkins, Federal director of relief. During 1933, the Federal Relief Administration gave Massachusetts $11,355,140, with an aditional $60,000 for transient relief, $144,300 for education, and $589,000 for the distribution of commodities.

According to Mr. Hopkin's figures there were 80,815 families in Massachusetts receiving relief, or 8 per cent of the total in the State, as compared with 11 per cent for the country as a whole. Those receiving relief in Massachusetts numbered 377,730. Total obligations for relief in the State from January through November was $37,645,115. Through Jan. 27, 1934, the C W A had allotted to Massachusetts $10,977,000.

What kind of people are getting relief? Hopkins thus answers the question: "Well, we know more about that now than we did before. We know, for instance, that there is a very high percentage of children on the relief rolls. We know that in the 3,000,000 families who received relief in October, the percentage of children was far higher than the percentage of children in the average families in the United States.

Excessive Percentage of Negroes

"We know, for instance, that there are twice as many Negroes on relief in proportion to the entire relief load than are represented in percentage of the total population. Something like 9 per cent of the population are Negroes, and yet over 18 per cent of all families in the United States getting relief are Negroes. We know the number of old people receiving relief is a little less than is found in the general run of families.

"We know something of their trades and occupations. We know that many of them are farmers and farm tenants and farm laborers. We know that in this group of people are found the whole gamut of trades and industrial workers in America—engineers, architects, bricklayers, carpenters, contractors, stenographers, typists, laborers—every conceivable kind of person.

"We know, too, that they represent twenty-five or thirty times as many people as were on relief in 1929. We know they are not a lot of chronics, who were always getting relief. In the main these people did not get relief before. They are not the people who were on the relief rolls years ago.

"We know, from a careful study of their records, that they are made up of the finest people in America. You can not get 4,500,000 families on the relief rolls without getting, from one end of the country to the other, the whole backbone of America's industrial and farm life."

What of the future? Here are Hopkins' views on the subject: "There are many people who still believe the problem should be handled by private charity, or that the total burden should rest on the counties, cities and States. That, however, is a theoretical argument.

"You know from all your past experience that what happens is that the unemployed take a licking. Every effort will be made to see that the States and cities pay a reasonably fair share of this bill.

"I do not think the Federal Government should be encouraged to stay in the relief picture forever. We have done nothing and will do nothing to encourage the setup of a permanent relief machinery of this kind in the United States. I think it would be a very serious mistake to do it. This is not the way to take care of the unemployed. But in an emergency like this something like this has to be done, and I think it has been done reasonably well.

"We have not permitted people to starve. We have made some mistakes, but we have tried to give relief reasonably and adequately and promptly. But I do not believe in it as a permanent method of co-operation with the States, nor do I believe in it as a permanent method of taking care of the unemployed.

"We have to think of a permanent plan. It seems to me it must be a scheme of insurance, not a scheme of relief. Whether that scheme should be put forward and broached now, or whether we should wait until the unemployed lists get back into industry, until we see what we have on our hands permanently, is a matter of opinion."

SOCIAL WORKERS TO DISCUSS NRA PHASES AT MEET

EAST BROOKFIELD, Mass.—The social workers of New England and vicinity will hold their fourth annual conference at Camp Alvater, here, June 21, 22 to discuss the phases of "Education for the New Deal."

The program for Thursday includes an adress by Mrs. T. Arnold Hill of New York who will speak on "The Social Workers' Contribution to Reconstruction."

L. [illegible] Wheadley of New Haven will discuss "Juvenile Delinquency," and Mrs. Sadie D. Harrison, Marshallton, Del., will speak on "N New Deal for the Delinquent."

Others on the program Thursday are Mrs. Dorothy Richardson, Boston; the Rev. Marvin W. Gibson, Worcester, Mass.; and Samuel A. Allen, New York.

John H. Puff Jr., Washington, will open Friday's discussion with a talk on "Conducting a Summer Camp," and Mrs. Lucy M. Mitchell, Boston, will address the conference on "Children of the Depression."

"The Negro's Place in the New Economic Order" will be cited by Benjamin T. Johnson, New London, Conn., and the afternoon session will be opened by Henry K. Craft, New York, who will speak on "Serving Older Boys and Young Men Through Their Own Club Organizations."

Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Washington, will address the group on "The New Deal and the Negro"; the Rev. Harold M. Kingsley, Chicago, "The Church and the Social Challenges."

Joseph W. Bowers, Orange, N.J., will discuss "New Methods and Results in Our Work With Boys."

Others on the program include John F. Madden, Springfield, Mass.; and E. Garry Tracy, Hartford, Conn.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1934

Mississippi.

ALEXANDRIA, LA.
TOWN TALK

AUG 13 1934

Current Comments

JUS' ICE TO THE NEGRO

The Baton Rouge State-Times says:

In Mississippi there is a row brewing over the treatment of the negro in the distribution of federal relief. The Jackson News says that the negro has not been getting a square deal by the new deal crowd and that the issue is going to be carried to President Roosevelt, if this is necessary, that justice may be done.

Whether the negro has gotten a square treatment in relief distribution, we do now know. The News says that he has not in Mississippi. In Louisiana he may have, for all we know. We don't know the facts and don't venture an opinion. Our impression is that on the farm lands the relief distribution has been generous with negroes, as well as whites, and being generous has probably had a tendency to make some of them loaf—not a difficult thing to do—and lead them to think the government owed them a living regardless of their efforts. But this is not true of the industrial situation generally. We are not so sure the deal has been quite square here.

The negro was the first to be released in the depression because, in a great many cases, he held a job that could be dispsensed with and the efficiency of the plant not lowered. It has been hard for him to get work. He has taken his punishment. He has tightened his belt and not complained.

There are certain jobs the negro, in the economics of the South, is fitted to do, and has been doing, for generations. He should be permitted to continue to do this sort of work.

The negro has been a serious sufferer during the depression. He has borne the ills of our industrial sickness patiently and without complaint. Now that there is a faint glimmer of reviving work he should not get any more than his share of this work, but he should not be denied that much. The heavy and hard work of the open, which he is fitted to do and has been doing since the Civil war he should be permitted to do.

BATON ROUGE, LA.
STATE TIMES

AUG 6 1934

JUSTICE TO THE NEGRO

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Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

E. T. Attwell Leads Survey In St. Louis

Expert Studies The Recreational Facilities For Negroes Here. Invited By City Welfare Organization

Two meetings were held here this week by E. T. Attwell, Field Director of the Bureau of Colored Work of the National Recreation Association, who is conducting a ten-day survey of recreation facilities for St. Louis Negroes. The work is being done at the request of the Welfare Plan Committee of St. Louis and St. Louis County.

Monday night at the Dunbar School Recreation Center of the Urban League Director Attwell presented his plan of study to a group of twenty or more members of the Citizen's Recreation Council and persons interested in problems of recreation. He invited those present to confer and cooperate in a fact-finding effort. Thursday night a meeting of a tentative survey committee was held at the Phyllis Wheatley Y. W. C. A.

Director Attwell is kept busy in more than 100 cities represented in the recreation association. He recently completed surveys in Cincinnati and Washington and last week presided at the annual recreation conference held at Lexington, Ky. Prior to that he was a speaker at a Cleveland meeting called by U. S. Commissioner of Education Zook to develop plans for the May conference on the Fundamental Problems in Negro Education.

ATTWELL TO ADDRESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING THIS FRIDAY

The Citizens Recreation Councils of the three community centers using the school buildings will meet this Friday at 7:30 p. m. to hear a discussion of recreation facilities and problems in the better use of leisure by Ernest T. Attwell of the National Recreation Association. The meeting will be held in the Dunbar School at 1415 N. Garrison avenue. All citizens interested in play provisions for colored children and recreation opportunities for adults are welcome to attend.

At the meeting Friday night persons identified with music and dramatic organizations and civic activities of community character are expected to be present. It is also expected that a tentative city-wide federated group to indicate permanent interest in recreation projects will be considered. Mr. Attwell is in St. Louis by request of the Welfare Plan Committee to make a brief survey of recreation conditions.

DEMAND PART OF FEDERAL AID

Evidence is piling up that there are more communities than the one this paper mentioned, in which public improvements to be made with federal aid are not reaching the already neglected Negro. Something ought to be done about such one-sided public planning.

There never can be a time when a community is well managed in which the spread between wealth and poverty, between education and ignorance, between capital and labor, between the favored and the neglected, is great. The van of an army and rear guard, however loosely tied together, still are inseparable to the point that the one cannot move ahead if the other is held back.

Building a healthy, happy community without helping all in it is impossible, but some cities try it. They should not go unrebuked, especially now when they are getting federal aid. They have taxed their own people and spent the local money for the benefit of some of them, but when they bring in Uncle Sam's money, he can object and should be importuned to object to an unfair distribution of it.

For Negroes to live off by themselves is typical of the average community in the Southwest. That would not be so bad if it were not that their sections of the cities too frequently are characterized by bad lighting, no paving, and even by no city water.

Shack towns are a disgrace to the best people of a city, far more than to the people who live in them. The latter may not have ever lived in better. But those who do know how human beings should be housed in this day cannot say that it makes no difference. They know that health depends upon conditions as a whole.

A Negro section without city water runs risks which ultimately are common to all. Federal money spent to lay out boulevards among homes already habitable, would be better used to provide necessities for Negroes who generally are neglected. If white people will not see that their officials take this far-sighted view of community building, Negroes should lay their case before Washington and fight to get a share of the money the government is spending.

ONE WAY TO CITY IMPROVEMENT

Negroes everywhere would do well to follow the example of St. Louis which is organized by blocks for the purpose of improving living conditions. One ugly spot, one undesirable family can lower the tone of a neighborhood. Mere criticism will never correct these, but a hand extended in a friendly manner is an appeal made in the most effective way to get the slothful and indifferent to do better.

Organizing by blocks is a way of keeping house and yard at their best. It is insurance against undesirables. Few landlords will invite the displeasure of the surrounding families by renting to bad tenants. None will with the block helping him find suitable renters.

Besides undesirable families, Negroes have to fight to prevent the invasion of their residential areas by undesirable businesses. The average American city has its red-light district for whites close upon the neighborhoods where respectable Negroes dwell. Furthermore whites with rackets come among us and set up business without our consent, and even over our objections. In some cases they even threaten to employ pistol persuasion to make us submit to their coming. Block organization will be effective in stopping these gang methods.

The individual Negro family is no more able to keep its neighborhood wholesome than are whites. They organize, and so must we. They have to drive out undesirables and then keep them out, and so must we. Their lawns, their back yards, their houses are kept up by effort directed by plan and so will ours be and not otherwise.

The average white family does not have to bear with the neighbor who is intentionally avowedly wicked. The agencies of the law hasten to act whenever such a situation threatens. By the same custom, build on one corner is nullified by some the law is indifferent when wickedness outlaw racket on another. Our children menaces Negroes. The corrective lies in will never be able to distinguish the good our hands. We can organize and we must and the beautiful from the forbidden until if we are to have sightly, livable neighbor- we make our residential neighborhoods hoods. clean, physically and morally.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

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Building a healthy, happy community without helping all in it is impossible, but some cities try it. They should not go unrebuked, especially now when they are getting federal aid. They have taxed their own people and spent the local money for the benefit of some of them, but when they bring in Uncle Sam's money, he can object and should be importuned to object to an unfair distribution of it.

For Negroes to live off by themselves is typical of the average community in the Southwest. That would not be so bad if it were not that their sections of the cities too frequently are characterized by bad lighting, no paving, and even by no city water.

Shack towns are a disgrace to the best people of a city, far more than to the people who live in them. The latter may not have ever lived in better. But those who do know how human beings should be housed in this day cannot say that it makes no difference. They know that health depends upon conditions as a whole.

A Negro section without city water runs risks which ultimately are common to all. Federal money spent to lay out boulevards among homes already habitable, would be better used to provide necessities for Negroes who generally are neglected. If white people will not see that their officials take this far-sighted view of community building, Negroes should lay their case before Washington and fight to get a share of the money the government is spending.

ONE WAY TO CITY IMPROVEMENT

Negroes everywhere would do well to follow the example of St. Louis which is organized by blocks for the purpose of improving living conditions. One ugly spot, one undesirable family can lower the tone of a neighborhood. Mere criticism will never correct these, but a hand extended in a friendly manner is an appeal made in the most effective way to get the slothful and indifferent to do better.

Organizing by blocks is a way of keeping house and yard at their best. It is insurance against undesirables. Few landlords will invite the displeasure of the surrounding families by renting to bad tenants. None will with the block helping him find suitable renters.

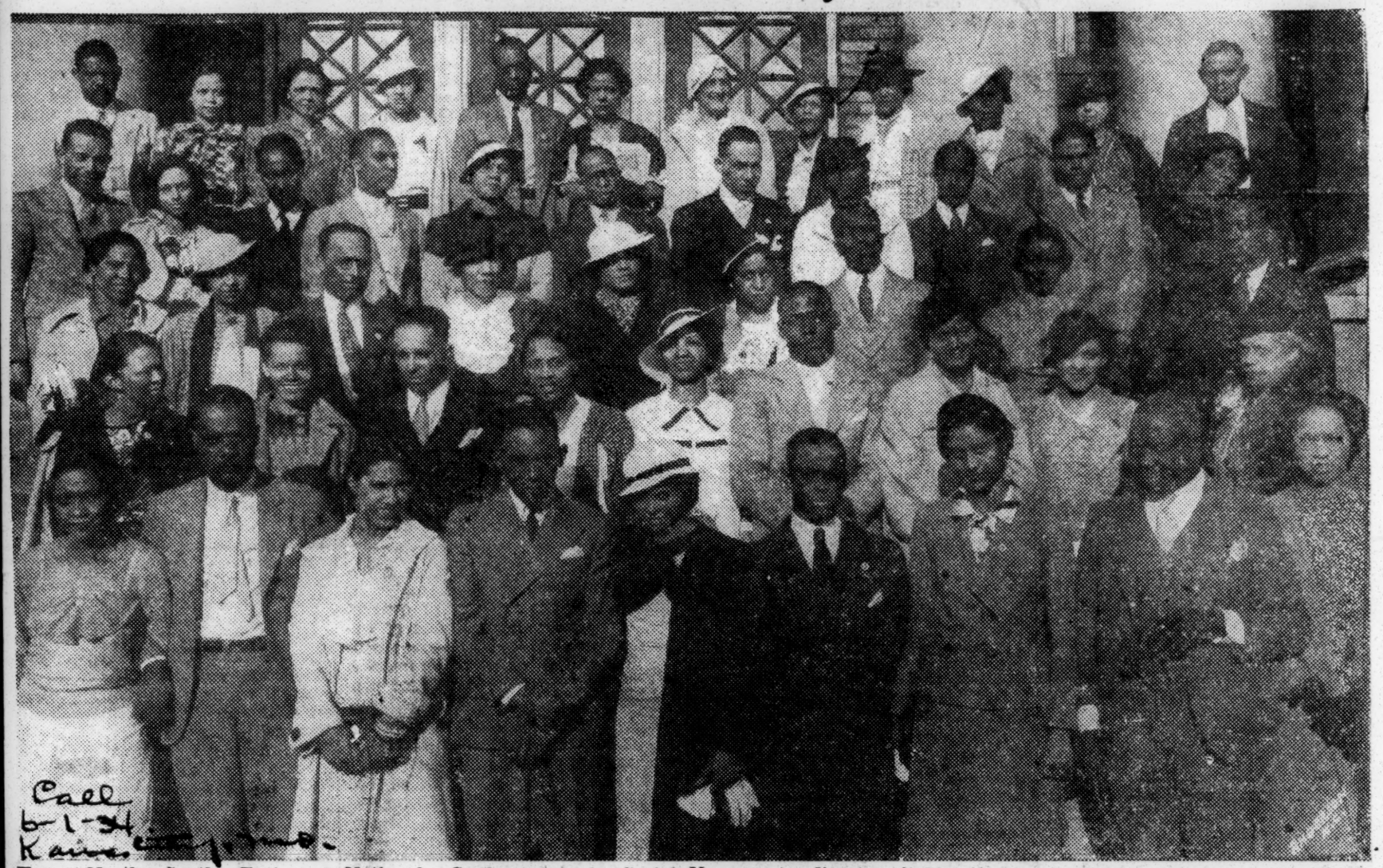
Besides undesirable families, Negroes have to fight to prevent the invasion of their residential areas by undesirable businesses. The average American city has its red-light district for whites close upon the neighborhoods where respectable Negroes dwell. Furthermore whites with rackets come among us and set up business without our consent, and even over our objections. In some cases they even threaten to employ pistol persuasion to make us submit to their coming. Block organization will be effective in stopping these gang methods.

The individual Negro family is no more able to keep its neighborhood wholesome than are whites. They organize, and so must we. They have to drive out undesirables and then keep them out, and so must we. Their lawns, their back yards, their houses are kept up by effort directed by plan and so will ours be and not otherwise.

The average white family does not have to bear with the neighbor who is intentionally avowedly wicked. The agencies of the law hasten to act whenever such a situation threatens. By the same custom, the law is indifferent when wickedness menaces Negroes. The corrective lies in our hands. We can organize and we must if we are to have sightly, livable neighborhoods.

It is to our shame that the church we build on one corner is nullified by 'some outlaw racket on another. Our children will never be able to distinguish the good from the forbidden until clean, physically and morally.

Social Workers at the Kansas City Conference



Call
6-1-34
Kans. City, Mo.

From North, South, East and West, social workers came to Kansas City last week to attend the National Conference of Social Work that brought more than 4,000 persons including more than 200 Negroes to discuss vital national and local problems of relief and welfare. A group of workers at last Thursday's meeting are shown in the photo. Included are many representatives of the Urban League.

Social Conditions, Improvement of-1934 National Association of Housing Officals.

MANAGER TAYLOR OF ROSENWALD BUILDING ATTENDS CONFERENCE

Robert L. Taylor, manager of the Rosenwald Garden apartments, 47th street and Michigan boulevard, is in Baltimore, Md., attending the five-day conference held by the National Association of Housing officials which convenes there. October 8-12, inclusive.

The conference is the climax of an extensive tour made by a party of distinguished experts on the administration of public housing programs, under the auspices of NAHO, with the cooperation of the federal authorities. Twelve cities were included in the tour, featured by intimate round-table meetings with local housing officials, municipal officials and interested technicians, to discuss the housing problems of the nation.

Foreigners Attend

The party included Sir Raymond Unwin, probably the most distinguish expert on city planning and housing in the English speaking countries; Miss Alice Samuel, a member of the council of the English Society of Women Housing Estate Managers and Director of Housing in an industrial suburb of Liverpool; Ernest Kahn, formerly manager of the municipal housing in Frankfurt, economist and banker; Henry Wright, the well known American architect and site planner, and Ernest Bohn, president of NAHO.

A selected group of responsible officials, housing experts and students of public administration were invited to form a conference to discuss impressions which the visitors have received on their tour and to canvass the status of public housing in this country. It is hoped that out of the deliberations may come a consensus, both as to the next steps in public and the basis for a long-term American public housing policy. It is also hoped to consider recommendations for the training of men and women to take their place in the execution and administration of such a program.

Mr. Taylor is well qualified to be a member of this conference, as his work as manager of the Rosenwald Garden apartments, one of the two Race projects of this kind, has made him outstanding in this field.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

National Conference of Social Work.

J. C. Vacates Urban League Meet In K. C.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — (By Jesse O. Thomas for the Associated Negro Press)—During the meeting of the National Conference for Social Work in Kansas City, Mo., the past week we saw another demonstration of how far custom and traditions can be disregarded when finance and good will dominate the thinking of the city fathers.

Some years ago, when the KK Grand Lodge met in Richmond, Virginia—which attracted some 75,000 people to the city—a word was passed down to the police department and the street car conductors to permit Negroes to disregard "Jim Crow" custom in the seating arrangements on street cars and ride where they please. Police were instructed to avoid making arrests except in cases where it was absolutely impossible to do otherwise. The city fathers of Richmond knew that the Elks would bring to Richmond and spend perhaps $300,000.

Likewise, Kansas City, in bidding for the conference of the 61st Annual Session of the National Conference of Socal Work, with a membership of upwards of 5,000, gave the "James Crow" custom a week's vacation. Negroes were housed in the downtown hotels, Negro delegates attended the president's banquet and reception ate and danced in the same dining room and auditorium, and "the earth still brings forth its increase." Only one anti-social reaction registered and that was by a group representing the Unity church which objected to Negroes being served with white delegates. We would, of course, expect this from the church. In no city in which the conference has met has there been more cordiality extended to the minority group representation than was true of Kansas City. It always seems unfortunate, however, to have a city suspend the enforcement of Jim Crow practices for strangers for a limited period and then reinforced them on the tax payers of the community from whom revenue is received to support the several institutions.

KANSAS CITY, MO.
STAR
MAY 23 1934

"NEGRO IS HIT HARDEST"

THE FIRST FIRED, THE LAST HIRED SOCIAL WORKERS ARE TOLD.

Forrester B. Washington, Director of Negro Work for FRA, Urges a Close Watch for Discrimination in Relief Work.

The Negro was called today the worst sufferer of the depression, the "first to be fired and the last to be hired," and the United States government his only source of real aid in the present emergency, by Forrester B. Washington, director of Negro work, federal relief administrator, Washington, D. C., in a meeting of the National Conference of Social Work.

"The most striking fact in connection with the Negro and relief," stated Mr. Washington, "is that the Negro bulks on the relief rolls of the federal emergency relief administration all out of proportion to his numbers in the general population.

FORCED OFF RELIEF ROLLS.

"Organized white labor, directly or indirectly, because of its insistence and success in dictating that only union members shall be employed under the recovery program, is an accessory in forcing the Negro on relief rolls because so many of the important international crafts unions or locals thereof have bars against Negro membership.

A large amount of the progress the Negro has made, Mr. Washington said, has been lost. He no longer has a secure place in industry. He is losing the decent housing he has acquired for himself. His death rate which had been declining, is now rising. He has seen crime within his own group increase. His forward movement in education has been checked by the closing of many of his schools and colleges. The first real advance he has made in business has been almost swept away. In general, his community and family life has become disorganized.

A POLITICAL SHIFT.

"The Negro, in desperation, is attempting to improve his economic status by changing his position," he added. "It is generally known that there was a large trek of Negroes from the Republican to the Democratic party at the last election. They had become disappointed in the Republican party as a solution for their economic problems as they had been disappointed in the Protestant church. "More Negroes than ever before supported the Socialist party at the last election, and a growing number of Negroes are turning towards Communism, especially in the northern cities."

About the only source to which the Negro can look for real aid today is the United States government, the speaker asserted. Local authorities cannot be trusted to administer equably government funds in many sections of the country so far as Negroes are concerned. This does not mean that the United States government should take the Negro over as a ward, he explained, but it does mean that it is up to the United States government to see that the cards are unstacked by bringing pressure in various ways upon those groups and organizations who are responsible for the Negro's plight.

OFFERS FOUR REMEDIES.

Four measures were proposed by Mr. Washington to remedy the present plight of Negroes in this country:

The President, or some public power almost as important, should impress upon the employing class that it is committing a social injustice and a civic blunder in deliberately throwing the support of Negro labor on the relief arm of the federal government.

The federal emergency relief administration should so integrate the Negro into its program that it will preserve the industrials' stability and morale of Negro labor which private industry is destroying.

The federal emergency relief administration should put at the disposal of the Negro group the full benefit of its self-help program.

Organized labor should be compelled to remove the bars that are set up against Negro membership in the worthwhile crafts unions.

Forrester Washington Renamed on Committee

ATLANTA.—Forrester B. Washington has just been notified of his reelection to the executive committee of the National Conference of Social Work for the term expiring June, 1935, by the executive committee of the conference at its recent special meeting. This will make the fourth consecutive time that Mr. Washington has served on this body and the election comes almost simultaneously with Mr. Washington's resignation as director of Negro work of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration to return to his duties as director of the rapidly expanding Atlanta School of Social Work from which he had been on leave of absence since February 1.

Mr. Washington is at present in New York to attend a meeting of the International conference of Social Work which he is a member and which is planning for its next meeting in England in 1936. From New York, Mr. Washington will go to Washington to consult with FERA officials regarding the completion of arrangements already begun for the training at the Atlanta School of Social Work under relief administration auspices of natives of certain of the government's insular possessions.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

National Red Cross Convention

17 DELEGATES TO RED CROSS

Afro-American

WASHINGTON.—Seventeen colored delegates representing the junior and senior high schools of the District of Columbia, including one young girl from Atlanta, Ga., were in attendance at the National Red Cross Convention, held in the District Building last week.

Louise Hines, 12-year-old student of Booker T. Washington High School of Atlanta, Ga., was sent here to represent 15,000 Red Cross members of Atlanta, and addressed the conference on the subject "Why We Should Send Christmas Boxes Abroad." She was accompanied to Washington by Miss Maria August, a teacher in the Atlanta school.

Harriett Slaughter, president of the Junior Red Cross, Colored schools, cast the vote for the District of Columbia, in the national elections.

4-21-34

There are two councils in the Washington chapter of the Junior Red Cross. One council is for colored and the other white, but only one vote is allowed from each chapter. It is the understanding of the chapter that a colored and white delegate alternate in the casting of votes at the national elections. Last year a white delegate cast the vote.

Delegates to the conference were:

Baltimore, Md.

Randall Junior High: Annie Hill and Katie Hayne; Terrell Junior High: Grattan Graves and Edith Smith; Francis Junior High: Gertrude Royster and Olive Washington; Browne Junior High; Beola Dodd and Gloria Johnson; Shaw Junior High: Sylvia Rich and Vi-Curtis Gray;

Armstrong High: Harry Taucaster and Daisy Scott; Dunbar High: Yvonne Noah and Elinor Mackett; Cardozo High: Mildred Taylor, Roland Miller and Virginia Williams; Booker T. Washington High Atlanta, Ga.: Louise Hines.

Last Wednesday, the delegates heard an address from Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

National Urban League

New York Times

FEB 15 1934

NEGRO AID GROUP ELECTS.

Judge J. N. Ulman Picked for the Executive Board.

The National League for Social Service Among Negroes held its annual meeting yesterday afternoon at the headquarters of the organization, 1,133 Broadway. A vacancy on the executive board was filled by the election of Judge Joseph N. Ulman of Baltimore. Officers were re-elected at the executive board meeting which followed the annual meeting.

Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive secretary of the league and adviser to the Department of Commerce on Negro affairs, in his annual report said that the league was trying to ally itself with Federal projects in obtaining employment for Negroes. Douglas P. Falconer, director of the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, was guest speaker. L. Hollingsworth Wood, chairman of the league, presided.

Points Out How New Deal Helps Jim Crow

NEW YORK, N. Y., June 22—The National Urban League Conference which recently concluded a two-day session in Kansas City, Mo., issued a statement of its findings to the American public as follows:

This is admittedly a crucial period in the history of America. It is a period of transition and change, perhaps the beginning of a new order. But whether the old order survives or a new order is born, the 12,000,000 Race people of America must become participants of it if Democracy is to attain its goals.

Racial discrimination has long been an established fact in public as well as private enterprise. Both the national and local governments have been guilty of various types of racial restrictions which have retarded the development of Negro citizens. The Federal government in undertaking the task of leading this nation out of this crisis has shown a more understanding attitude toward the problems faced by Negroes than in the past. But the various instruments created to initiate and carry out the program of Recovery have not as yet functioned in a manner to assure Negro citizens of an equitable participation in the benefits of that program.

Race Workers Not Considered

Under the NRA Negro workers in many instances have been excluded from consideration in the Codes, and the provision guaranteeing the minimum wage and conditions and hours of work have been and are openly flouted. Up to this time the net effect of the Reduction of Cotton Acreage under the AAA has been to dispossess thousands of Negro tenants and share-croppers from the land to enormously increase the social problems in the cotton raising areas of the country. At the same time Negro farmers have faced tremendous difficulties in securing farm and home loans from governmental agencies created for the purpose of rendering succor to this class of citizen. Despite pronouncements from the Secretary of the Interior to the effect that employment on public works was not to be determined by race, color or creed, Negroes, both skilled and unskilled have been systematically denied opportunity for employment on these projects in anything like a fair proportion by contractors and labor organizations who have ignored the ruling of the Secretary of the Interior.

League Fights "Differentials"

The National Urban League is unalterably opposed to differential wage codes directly or indirectly based upon the color of a worker's skin. Every intelligent argument to defeat their establishment should be employed. Intelligent social workers should oppose this form of economic discrimination because it defeats the very objectives for which social work was established. The Urban League Movement must permit no departure from this point of view within its ranks. It should seek every means to destroy the virus which expresses itself in such undemocratic and unsound economic action. It should be vigilant in reporting instances of discrimination to those national and local groups unwilling to countenance the perpetuation of a racial differential in wages.

The National Urban League pledges itself to work unceasingly for the attainment of social justice for all Americans regardless of race or color. It will continue to protest against race discrimination and unsocial practices which pervade various sections of the Recovery organization. Especially does the League deplore the failure to appoint Negroes in the various administrative offices as clerks, stenographers, and assistants, positions for which hundreds of Negroes now unemployed are qualified by training, ability and character; and the League pledges itself to continue its efforts to correct this palpable injustice.

The National Urban League demands the elimination of racial restrictions on the part of the American Labor Movement. It submits that no labor organization which limits membership on the basis of race or color can speak for American workers, one-ninth of whom are Negroes.

The exclusion of Negroes from national and international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor is inexcusable and should be of immediate concern to the administrative officers of this organization.

Has Taken Steps To Aid Workers

The National Urban League has already taken steps to overcome the handicaps which the Negro faces during this critical period in his history. The organization of Emergency Advisory Councils throughout the nation has served to acquaint the Negro with the measures for Recovery and to provide him with the instrument through which he might register his protest against unfair treatment. The Workers' Council now being organized are designed to give black workers a voice in the labor movement in America. And the National Urban League and its forty-four local branches shall bend every effort to secure for Negro citizens that measure of justice to which they are entitled.

We realize the great responsibility in this effort must of necessity rest on the shoulders of Negroes themselves. Without intelligent, courageous and unselfish leadership little will be accomplished. But we are confident that liberal America will not withhold its support of our attempt to eliminate from American life those subversive influences which menace not only the hope of Recovery but Democracy itself.

Social Conditions, Improvement of—1934

New Jersey

NEWARK, N. J.
SUNDAY CALL

APR 8 1934

GRAB BAG.

No heart bleeds so easily as the heart of a state senator or assemblyman. He simply can't resist a piteous plea for jobs or more pay or pensions or a new commission. He is particularly tender-hearted if the plea is accompanied by assurances that granting the request will please ever so many voters.

Some mighty magnanimous bills have been dropped in the legislative hopper. Many have no chance of passing, but some will reach the Governor's desk, and a few will find their way to the statute books.

The liquor control bill, for instance, contains a juicy raise for Commissioner Burnett. From $13,000 to $16,500. And it boosts the ante for three deputy commissioners from $4,000 to $6,000.

The State Board of Tax Appeals is also due for a raise, the members from $4,500 to $7,000 and the president from $6,500 to $7,500.

Then there is an appropriation of $10,000 which goes with the bill for organizing a colored National Guard machine gun and headquarters company in Mercer county.

There are pensions. For widows of court attendants who die from causes other than in line of duty; for the widow of a prison instructor, $100 monthly; for a workman injured on a state highway, $1,040 annually; for judicial stenographers at age of 60 after serving thirty years; for widows of court reporters; for widows of vice chancellors.

The veterans get their share. One bill exempts veterans' organizations from motor vehicle fees, for no discernible reason. Another would educate at state expense orphans of war veterans preparatory to attending Annapolis or West Point. Others provide tenure for veterans appointed by boards of freeholders for fixed terms; for veterans employed in district courts for five years. And then there is a little item of $50,000 which the American Legion would like to have appropriated for its 1935 convention in Atlantic City.

Another luscious bit is the bill creating a migrant welfare commission of three members at $4,000 each annually, with an appropriation of $50,000 to aid Negroes afflicted with wanderlust.

The cause for which Senator Prall's heart bleeds is cows, and particularly tubercular cows. He feels so sorry for them that he wants the taxpayers to put up $60,000 for indemnifying owners of tubercular cattle. Another bill would spend $5,000 for the care and support of typhoid carriers.

All public employees want nothing so much as tenure, unless it's more pay. And so there are many bills providing tenure for this or that class of loyal and deserving public servant. Tenure means that it is thereafter impossible to separate the beneficiary from the payroll. In a flock of tenure bills is one providing protection for secretaries of insurance fund commissions in first-class cities who have held office for ten years. Another for persons who have been employed in district courts for five years.

No possible job that can be created should be left uncreated seems to be the philosophy behind the bill which would authorize Supreme Court justices to appoint law librarians in first-class counties.

Among other raises is one for county election board members in counties over 500,000 population. These indispensable workers who labor so diligently to preserve the purity of the ballot, with an effectiveness well known to Newark, are to be jumped from $2,600 a year to $3,000.

There are other bills, many others, but these are enough to show how the kindly legislative heart bleeds and its cheerful willingness to spend other people's money.

The big point about all this is the fact that each bill has ardent and vociferous supporters outside the Legislature. These dear good folk at another time and place shout long and loudly for governmental economy and the end of governmental extravagance.

SHELL PILE TO BECOME MODEL COMMUNITY

JERSEY CITY, N. J.—Through the United States Department of Interior, Division of Subsistence Homesteads, plans are being completed for the establishment of a unit to ameliorate conditions of Negroes engaged in the oyster industry at Shell Pile, a section of Port Norris.

The group involved lives under poor housing conditions and has no outlet in the town proper because of limited facilities and houses available.

Shell Pile is a community 10 years of age. Negroes came beginning in 1922 to engage in the oyster opening industry during the season from September to May. Temporary quarters were erected in 1924 to house workers with the idea that after May 1 they would return to their respective homes.

Workers gradually began to stay in New Jersey finding employment after the oyster season on farms in the immediate area. As a result the temporary quarters now house workers who stay throughout the year.

The proposed project will begin with 30 families as an experiment in a model city that will allow for home ownership and an acre of ground in order that employees may raise chickens and produce for the consumption of the individiual family.

Homes will be four and five room concrete block construction, strictly modern in every detail with the added attraction of a community house where other agencies, national, state and private will cooperate in programs for community betterment.

There will be playgrounds and leisure time activities under the supervision of trained workers, so that an efficient job will be carried on.

The project is for an industrial group that is made up entirely of Negroes and who have expressed an eagerness to become homesteaders.

This plan is being formulated by J. Richard Nelson, assistant biologist, New Jersey Oyster Experiment Laboratory; Nelson C. Jackson, special project supervisor, Bureau of Transients, State of New Jersey Emergency Relief Administration and supervised by John P. Murchison, assistant supervisor of the Division of Subsistence Homesteads.

Social Workers Organize In N. J.

ASBURY PARK, N. J.—(UNP)—Organization of a state wide group of colored social workers was launched at a meeting of delegates to the annual convention of the New Jersey Conference of Social Work in the Berkley Caterer Hotel here the past weekend.

The skeleton organization is headed by Harold E. Lett, executive secretary of the New Jersey Urban League. The meeting of the colored workers was held in Convnetion Hall Friday evening. Over 30 leading social workers in the state were present.

New York.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

NEWS

Roslyn, N.Y.

JUL 12 1934

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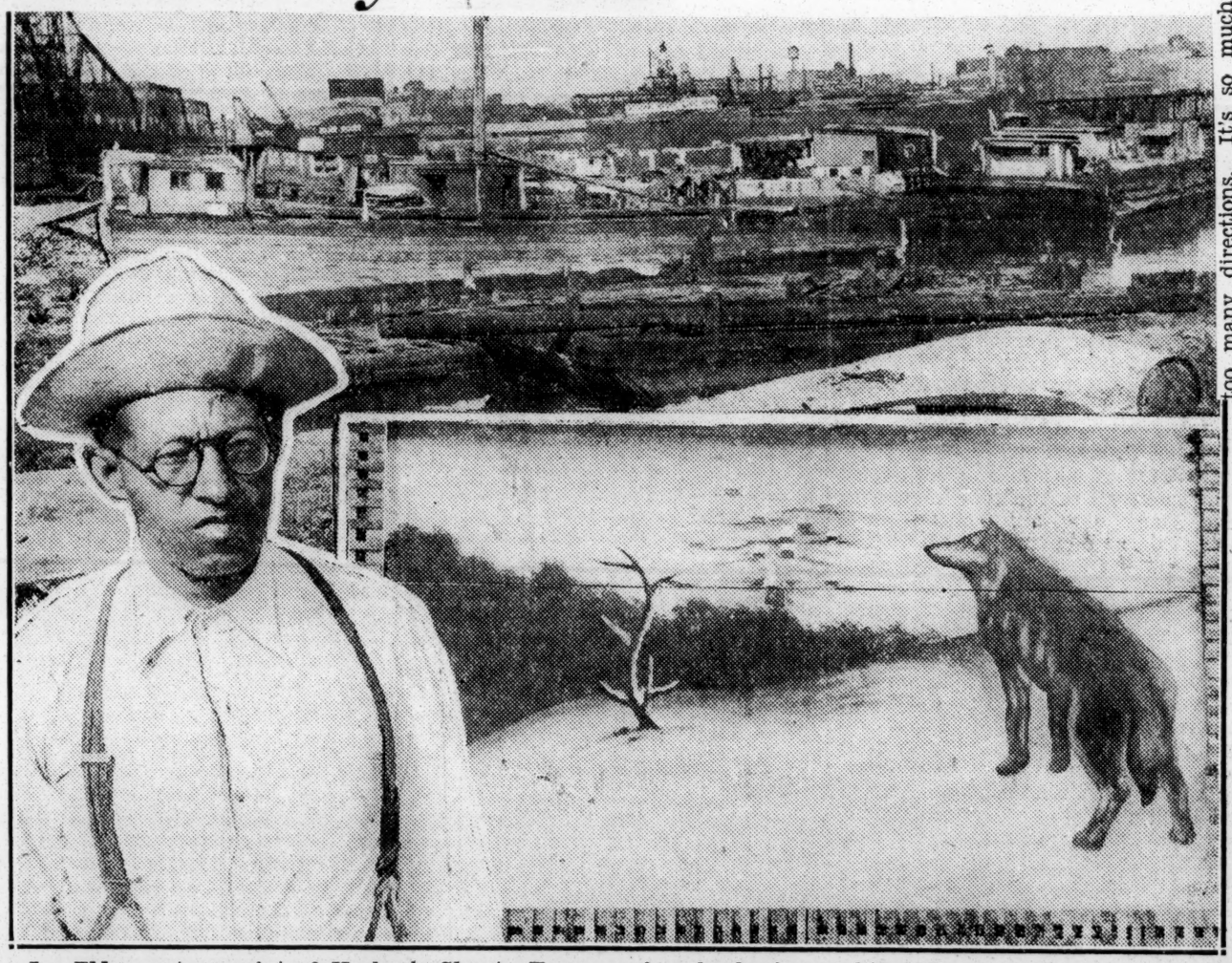
SHANTY TOWN

Harlem Riverfront Settlement Is Real Community Center

RESIDENTS of the crowded sections of Manhattan and Brooklyn probably would answer with a Bronx cheer anyone who suggested a project to clear up the slums of Nassau County. To those who live in the slums of New York, Nassau, if they have ever seen it, is still an open country, teeming with bucolic attractions. Just the same we have our slums, in Oyster Bay and Manhasset Valley, to mention only two North Shore communities. And we have them in our Middle Island and South Shore communities. They are sections filled with wretched shacks, without any sanitation, inhabited by creatures who are ignorant of even the rudiments of cleanliness. Many of these huts are occupied by Negroes, but there are others in which foreign and native born residents eke out an unwashed and, for the most part, rather unpleasant existence.

The more fortunate are dimly aware of these sections and find them, aesthetically speaking, a nuisance. Too, they remember them with baskets at Thanksgiving and perhaps other baskets at Christmas, if the ones from Thanksgiving are all used up. Beyond that they trust that the proper authorities will take care of them. The "proper authorities" also know about them. Health officers, confronted with so many situations that may or may not be a menace to public health, pass them by. Welfare officers, concerned with providing the poor with enough food to keep them alive haven't time to bother with other problems.

Mayor La Guardia has secured the promise of millions of dollars of Federal money for his New York slums clearance program. Why can't Nassau County have a few hundred thousand? The field here is ripe for the experiment. Many difficulties beset the way, but they are not insuperable. Certainly it is open to debate whether the money could be spent in any more constructive way. Relief money has been spent in unnecessary road work. Scores of other projects of a more or less dubious value have been completed. The clearance of the slums of Nassau indubitably would be a worthy cause. It would improve naturally beautiful sections that have been made ugly by the neglect and dirtiness of men. It would act as a stimulant to local pride. It



Joe Elder, patron saint of Harlem's Shanty Town, a river bank view of his settlement (above), and one of the large oil paintings which adorn the walls of his "community house."

Joe Elder Is Patron Saint of Thrifty Little Village

By T. R. POSTON.

WAY BACK DURING the Depression (You remember the Depression?) they devoted reams and reams of copy to Joe Elder and his National Negro Boat Terminal at 133d street and the Harlem River.

New York dailies, the Herald Tribune, Sun, News, Post; national magazines, the Literary Digest and Time, and many other periodicals devoted columns of space to the unique community on the Harlem riverfront, where hundreds of jobless men, under the benevolent direction of Joe Elder, carried on a communal existence and beat the Big Bad Wolf from their shanty and houseboat doors.

Supercilious white writers, unconsciously expressing their gratification that members of this group were adjacent, described the daily dents and the philosophy of its patron saint, Joe Elder, musician, mechanic, sage and humanitarian.

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THEY ARE NOT to be blamed for this, however. Undoubtedly, they have done their best—in many instances better than this hack can do. For, as the Sage of Shantytown himself put it as he discussed the project with this writer abcard the largest barge, a 110-foot barn-like covered affair:

"You can't really describe it. It's too big. It reaches too far and in too many directions. It's so much more than four barges, a few ramshackle cabins, and a couple of hundred men. It's even more than a community house for the east side, a meeting place for the people of the neighborhood, a recreation center for their children, a new starting point for the down-and-almost-outers. It's proper word and shrugged futilely when he failed to find it. "It's just ——," he searched vainly for the

of the floating barn-like boat which houses a real community house with playground apparatus for children, dance floors for elders, assembly hall for the down-and-outers, and—" he searched vainly for the proper word and shrugged futilely when he failed to find it. "It's just too big."

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AND JOE ELDER is right. You can't really describe it. It's too big. It reaches too far and in too many directions. It's so much more than four barges, a few ramshackle cabins, and a couple of hundred men. It's even more than a community house for the east side, a meeting place for the people of the neighborhood, a recreation center for their children, a new starting point for the down-and-almost-outers. It's too big."

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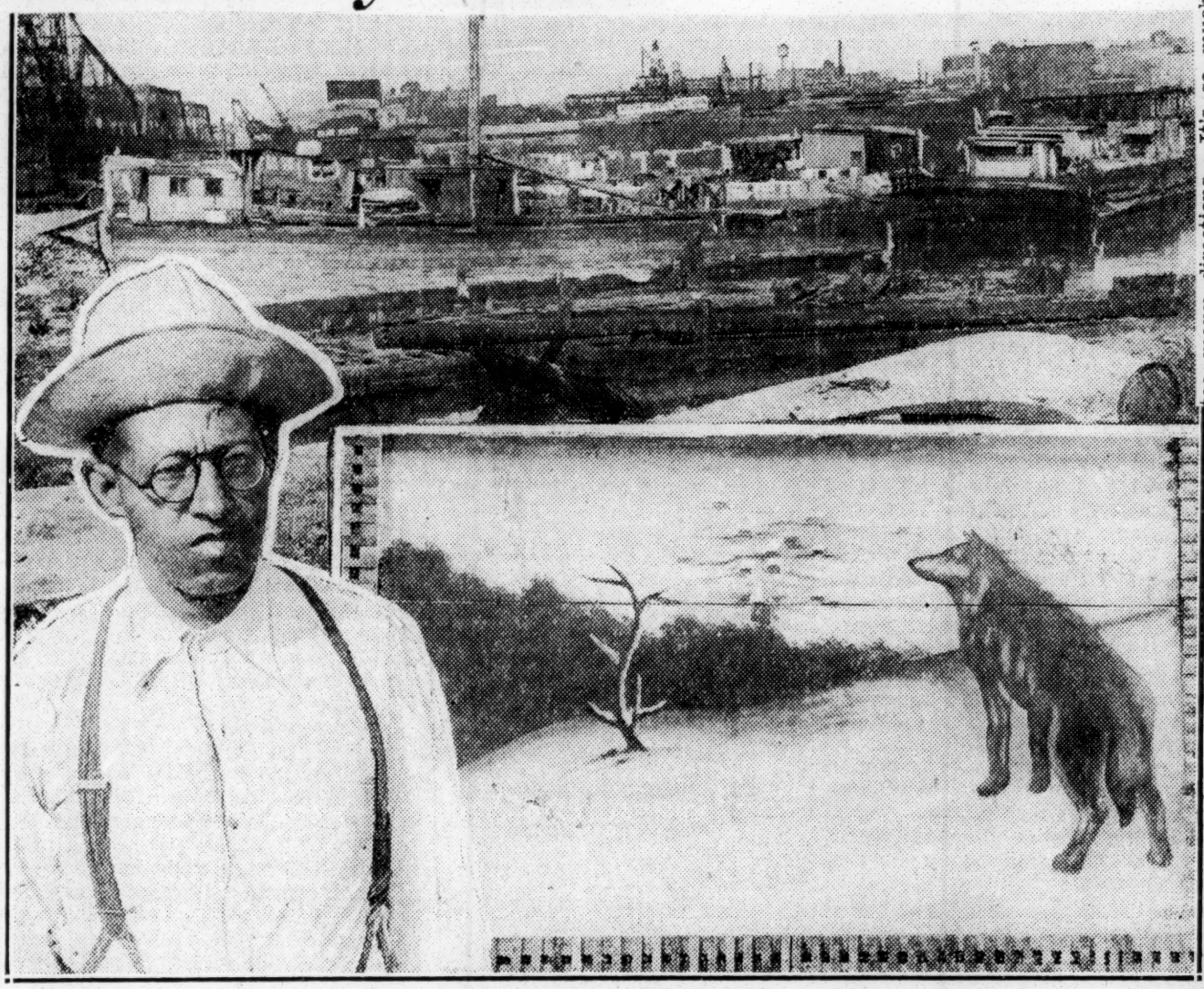

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Supercilious white writers, unconsciously expressing their gratification that members of the down-and-almost-outers were different, described the daily routine of Joe Elder's commune and the philosophy of its patriarch, saint, Joe Elder, musician, mechanic, sage and humanitarian.

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THEY ARE NOT to be blamed for "praising" the residents of the shanty settlement for their industry, ingenuity and resourcefulness. Equally supercilious Negro hacks, aping their white masters, wrote too of the ramshackle community, its outer squalor, inner beauty and its struggling inhabitants.

But none of them—at least, none whose clippings are pasted in Joe Elder's voluminous scrapbook—have described the magnitude of the undertaking, its ramifications, the extent of its influence in the neighborhood, the real character of its residents and the philosophy of its patriarch.

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AND JOE ELDER is right. You can't really describe it. Oh, anyway a word picture of the shanty-town, its community house with dance floors for elders, assembly hall for neighborhood clubs and winter playground apparatus for children, a meeting place for the down-and-almost-outers, a new starting point for the ramshackle cabins, and a couple of hundred men. It's even more than a community house for the east side, proper word and shrugged futilely when he failed to find it. "It's just a place for the people of the neighborhood, a recreation center for children, a new starting point for the down-and-almost-outers. It's too big."

• • •

Shantytown himself put it as he searched vainly for the houses built on their rough decks, tle houses built on their rough decks, houses a real community house with

who live in the settlement. Of the broken down trucks and little shanties which house the summer residents, and of the apparent squalor which greets the eyes of the morning commuters who pass the city on the New York Central Railroad daily.

Yet, who can describe the fierce pride of the residents, their primitive independence, yet advanced interdependence upon their community efforts? Their scorn of relief agencies (none of the men has applied for or accepted city relief). Their resentment at being called "bums" (each resident practices his own trade or has created a self-supporting trade of his own) or the implication that they are poverty-stricken (more than half of the men have postal savings accounts). Who can describe all this in a mere newspaper article? No one. It is a thing to feel when you talk to the men, and, having felt it, you go your way, knowing in your heart that you really can't describe it to others.

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THE NATIONAL Negro Boat Terminal, that is the name given it by Joe Elder six years ago when he founded the place as a possible terminal for small yachts and boats which he hoped Negroes would buy (but which, of course, they never did), is located at the foot of 133d street, just off upper Park avenue. It is known now, more truthfully, as the National Negro Civil Association and has an itinerant population of about 200 residents, with only two family groups—Joe Elder, his wife, and two small children, and Mr. and Mrs. William Smith. The other residents, who live on the river bank in the summer and in the large covered barge in the winter, are all men.

The community is strictly communal and self-supporting. The men ply their trades when they have one and when there is an opportunity (There are electrical engineers, trained mechanics, carpenters, pipefitters, brick masons, house painters and artists in the group.) and pool their resources and finances in building the community itself. Where the men are untrained they have created their own trades. Most of them have rigged up little pushcarts with which they scour the city for discarded materials, old shoes, clothes, paper, rags, metal, automobile tires, motor parts or whatever they can find. They sell most of these articles for cash and turn the rest into the community "treasury." In the winter they cut firewood from two deserted barges given Elder by the government and peddle it from their pushcarts.

The men have divided themselves into small groups and each group makes a "pool" from which they purchase food and feed themselves. In the summer they cook for the most part under the towering structure of the New York Central Railroad; in the winter on the covered barge and in the cabins. When a member becomes sick the others care for him until he recovers. They bathe at the 134th street natatorium and most of them heed Joe Elder's advice to "save a little" by opening small accounts in the postal banks. When they have accumulated enough or secured regular jobs they move away to rented rooms or apartments to make room for others. The yearly turnover of the community is almost fifty per cent, but the population always ranges from 150 to 200 persons.

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IN THEIR SPARE time the men help Joe Elder in installing the comforts of home on the barges. Three years ago Elder installed his own electric plant which lighted all the boats. It was made from an old automobile engine and a generator purchased from the city. It operated successfully until last week, when an inspector objected to the wiring and caused its builder to rip out the lines. The boats have their own water closets, installed by a Tuskegee Institute graduate who was a temporary resident; kitchen sinks, an ornate drinking fountain (They buy their water from New York City and pump it to each barge.) and kerosene cooking stoves in each cabin.

Four large oil paintings adorn the latticed inside walls of the 110-foot covered barge which Elder calls the "community house." These paintings, skillfully executed and cleverly lighted, were drawn by Arthur Tucker, a non-resident, but other paintings, on the large barge and in the other cabins, were executed by itinerant artists. There are three pianos on the barges and cases full of books in Elder's home. John Galswerthy, W. Somerset Maugham, S. S. Van Dine, Laura Jean Libbey and others are represented in these files.

THE ACTIVITIES of the community are by no means confined to the residents, however. The place is in truth a community center for the upper east side. Children make use of the playground apparatus. Grown-ups seek the summer cool on the barges and civic and political groups hold mass meetings in the large assembly hall. Democrats, Republicans, Communists and others have met there. Last year Alderman Charles W. Bradford and other candidates addressed meetings at which nearly 1,500 persons were present. A children's party this year brought more than 200 youngsters there from Sugar Hill, upper and lower Harlem and gave impetus to the Parents Club which is being sponsored by the founder.

The community value of the settlement is attested by letters of endorsement which Elder has been given by James H. Hubert of the Urban League, Roy Wilkins of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Ralph O. Gothard of the Harlem Business Men's Club, J. Dalmus Steele, Mayor of Harlem, Porter Grainger of the Tepekee Democratic Club, Attorney John E. Doles and many others. So wide are these activities that Elder has been trying to find backers to purchase the old Y. M. C. A. building on 135th street as a new community center.

One hesitates to essay a description of Joe Elder, the kindly, almost saint-like little musician who neglected his profession and started this settlement six years ago. The founder himself will give you little help. "Ask the people of the neighborhood," he'll tell you. "Find out what **they** think of Joe Elder. That's what really counts." Probably the best indication of the kind of man Joe Elder is, however, may be found in the fact that he, the founder, possesses no more, and in many cases, even less than any other member of the settlement. Others have postal savings accounts. Elder has turned every cent of his earnings back into the settlement.

AND NOW it seems that his sacrifice may have been in vain. For the National Negro Boat Terminal (or the National Negro Civic Association) is threatened with destruction. White commuters, passing the site daily on their trips from and to their comfortable suburban homes, have complained to the Dock Department that the settlement is an "eyesore." They have enlisted the aid of the Outdoor Cleanliness League, a whtie organization, who are attempting to wipe the community out.

Their efforts seem to be bearing fruit. Officials of the Dock Department have visited the place and are considering closing it. The light inspector has complained of the electric wiring. Police have been stationed for hours on the scene despite the fine record of the residents. (There has never been an arrest nor a serious disorder in the settlement during its existence. Recently, William Smith and three other residents risked their lives to capture a murderer who had strangled and assaulted a woman on upper Park avenue.)

And Joe Elder, for the first time in six years, is becoming discouraged. He suffered a serious accident which incapacitated him for several months last spring. He has fallen slightly behind in the rent he pays the city for the site. He has received almost no support from Harlem, the community he sought to benefit, and he is beginning to be troubled by the future of little two-year-old Alice, his daughter, and little eleven-months-old Jacob, his son. Only through them can Joe Elder think of himself.

Harlem still can save the project for which this unusual little man has given six of the forty-five years of his life. Readers could deluge the office of Commissioner of Docks John McKenzie at Pier 1, North River, with letters showing the value of the settlement to the community. Clubs and other organizations could find Joe Elder's assembly hall more novel and practical for their affairs than many of the halls and ballrooms they now patronize. A visit to the place will convince anyone of the necessity of such action.

• • •

BUT whether or not Harlem proves itself ungrateful again, as it has done in innumerable instances, Joe Elder has built himself a monument which time cannot destroy. He has helped thousands of men to regain their self-respect. He has given hundreds of oppressed people a brief moment of relaxation. He has momentarily lightened the dreary childhood of scores of Harlem youngsters. And he has proved that at least two men, Jesus Christ and Karl Marx, were not merely impractical dreamers.

Social Conditions, Improvement of. -1934

URBAN LEAGUE LENDS ALLEN TO TERA BODY

Industrial Secretary Will Guard Allotment of Work to Negroes by State

Samuel A. Allen, Industrial Secretary of the New York Urban League has been released to the Temporary Emergency Relief Administration of the State of New York. It is understood that Mr. Allen is to become second assistant to Frederick I. Daniels executive director of the TERA.

Mr. Allen's appointment is regarded as an initial step in an organized effort to secure representation not only on the Administration staff, but on various commissions and boards particularly where their functions affect the welfare of Negroes.

Mr. Allen, formerly executive director of the Boston Urban League, has been industrial secretary of the New York Urban League for four years.

As one of the administrators of the TERA which controls money loaned to the New York State government by the Federal government, his first duty will be to look into the allotment of work to Negro workers on various projects throughout the State and in New York City.

Miss Ogda Jorgenson, Mr. Allen's secretary, was loaned to TERA to serve as his secretary.

Governor Lehman Asked For Negro Representation on State Welfare Educational And Prison Boards

The support of Herbert H. Lehman, Governor of the State of New York was promised recently to a group of social workers who conferred with him on the matter of providing Negro representation on the state governing boards, administrative staffs, special state bureaus, as well as membership on various boards and commissions that effect the welfare of the Negro.

Fruits of Utica Conference

This vital and important step to improve the race's condition throughout the State, grew out of the annual conference of the New York Urban League at Utica, where the following persons were named as a committee to interview the Governor.

James H. Hubert, executive secretary of the New York Urban League; Golden B. Darby, executive secretary of the Dunbar Community Center, Syracuse, N. Y.; James H. Balmer, jr., executive secretary of the Albany Inter-Racial Council; Samuel A. Allen, industrial secretary, New York Urban League; Mrs. John M. Pollard of the Booker T. Washington Community Center at Auburn, and representative of the Empire State Federation of Colored Women.

Urgent Need Stressed

The committee was received by the Governor at the Executive Mansion in Albany on February 9. It was suggested to the Governor that "Negroes might well be represented" on all of the 14 State boards and departments. Especially urgent, said the committee, is the need for Negro representation in the division of Parole, Education Department, Department of Social Welfare and the Division of Probation.

Other departments named were Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, Department of State, Division of Housing, Department of Public Works, Department of Labor, Department of Health, Department of Mental Hygiene, Boards of Child Welfare, Department of Civil Service and the temporary Emergency Relief Administration.

In the last named department, Hubert T. Delany, the newly appointed City Tax Commissioner, is chairman of the Negro division. Boston has a Negro as one of the three members of the Parole Board in the person of Matthews Bullock.

Facts Sustained Petition

Facts in support of their petition were presented to Governor Lehman by the special committee. They pointed out that the census of 1930 disclosed the Negro population of the State to be 431, 257, and that the increase in the larger cities was of proportion to the increase of the general population.

"From 1920 to 1930 there was an increase of 114.9 per cent in the Negro population of New York City," the committee reported, "while the white population increased only 20.9 per cent. . . Though constituting 3.3 per cent of the total population of the state, the Negro prison population in 1930 formed 9.9 per cent of the whole. In the city of New York, while Negroes constituted 4.5 per cent of the population, they supplied 12 per cent of the children committed to institutions for care of dependents in 1932, and 15 per cent in 1931.

Crime and Unemployment

"Of 46,019 males committed to the Department of Correction in 1929, 6,709 or over 12 per cent were Negroes," the report continued. "In 1930 the ration ran as high as 27 per cent. In the Borough of Manhattan, the Negro population constitutes 12 per cent but contributed 33 per cent of homicide victims in 1931. Nearly all State institutions show an increase in their Negro intake since 1920, ranging all the way from 10 to 20 per cent of the total populations.

"A recent study has disclosed that the Negro forms 13.3 per cent of the unemployed in New York City."

The committee told the Governor that as social workers they are constantly appealed to by judges, probation officers and officials in various State institutions, for aid in combating the increasing rate in crime and delinquency.

All Agencies Overtaxed

"In spite of all now being done by public and private agencies we recognize a gradual increase in the number of Negroes committed to correctional institutions;" said the committee, "in most cases out of all proportion to that which the population warrants . . .

"At the Utica Conference, those present deplored this state of affairs, and expressed themselves as desirous of co-operating in a proposition designed to remedy these conditions."

Governor Lehman was told that in spite of this increase in Negro population and its attendant social problems, the Negro has not had a fair opportunity to assist with correctives.

"For example: Negroes are not represented on the Governing Boards, and only in a few intsances is Negro personnel used, to any considerable extent, in the Administrative Staff. Even in institutions like Warwick, where the per cent of the Negro population is about 75, until a year ago—when one was added—there was no Negro representative on the Board.

Fight Against Discrimination

"It is our belief that wherever the interests of Negroes are involved whether educational, social or correctional, use should be made of his training and interpretation of conditions which others less familiar could not perform as satisfactorily, however sympathetic they may be.

"We also call attention to the fact that while the Negro constitutes so large a percentage of the unemployed, he has been practically overlooked in the selection of the personnel to man the machinery for selecting, placing and supervising the various work projects, and recruiting labor for same.

"Reports of open discrimination against Negroes have convinced us that these complaints could best be handled by including on the Administrative Staff some Negro personnel."

The committee then suggested to Governor Lehman that Negroes be appointed to fill vacancies on the various boards and in the different departments. And a recommendation was made to conduct a State wide study and inquiry into the conditions and needs of the Negro population, such as have been conducted in other states, and that members of the race be appointed on such commission of study.

Governor Lehman committed himself to take the matter seriously under advisement. Cordiality and the highest courtesies characterized the reception of the committee by the Governor, and the members left the conference greatly encouraged.

New York Times

JUN 24 1934

BROOKLYN SLUM AIDED

Razing Fulton Street "L" Will Bring Light to a Needy Colony

By RUTH GRUBER.

INTO an old slum area of Brooklyn the sunlight is at last to filter. For the Fulton Street elevated structure approaching the Brooklyn Bridge is to be torn down and streets that have been growing steadily darker are once more to be bright.

Today, in the shadow of the elevated, many of Brooklyn's poorest people huddle together. Embedded in a great banking and shopping world, they are apparently unnoticed. Yet they are a strange conglomeration of peoples and cultures. Alien to an industrialized scheme, they stand out a stranger anomaly now than ever before. Color, charm, esoteric quaintness—the things one goes abroad to discover—are here, obscured by their very nearness.

Here live Negroes, Spaniards, Puerto Ricans, Italians and gypsies. Fleeing poverty at home, they have followed the mirage of economic independence, and in Brooklyn are making their last stand. But here is none of the drabness of poverty, none of the apathy of many of America's unemployed. Italians, standing at their pushcarts, whistle

arias from "Aida," though they have been up since dawn to get a good place at the curb. Negroes laugh richly. Gypsies dance around the grimy pillars of the "L."

The Negro Hinterland.

The little territory reflects in miniature the great social problems of the world—nationalism, economic rivalry, petty jealousies. The streets are marked by stern frontier boundaries. Walking down Hudson Avenue, one is acutely conscious of a Negro heritage. The Negroes have created no indigenous architecture in the North, but the houses they rent—dark, unpainted dwellings in sad disrepair—become as native to them as the kiosk to a Turk or the tepee to an Indian.

Rents in the Negro hinterland must be paid by the week. Evictions for two weeks' non-payment have grown so common that lodgings are in a constant flux of changing residents. In a typical railroad flat facing the condemned "L," six Negro families are now living together. Recently one of them broke the baby's bank to pay the landlord a dollar on account. There had been no bread in the man's family for two days, yet he refused to take a penny from the rent to buy food.

The Sharp Gutter-Frontier.

Race prejudice draws lines of bitter nationalism in Brooklyn's slums. Even the gypsies and the "poor whites" have little to do with the Negroes or with one another, except for business. The gutter-frontier is sharp. Across the Negro pale lies another culture, a civilization of Spaniards.

The colony is haunted by the misery of Spain and Cuba and colonial Puerto Rico. The children, lacking nourishment, fall an easy prey to disease. The death rate from tuberculosis is high. Most of the Cubans in Brooklyn can no longer afford to use sugar, while in Cuba hundreds of thousands of tons of sugar cane are wasted each year.

Innocent of nationalism, here as in Europe, the gypsies are the great disintegrating force in the frontier lines. Into the family of nations they come, riding in motorized caravans, with bedding, phrenology charts, pots and pans, silks, lace and exotic human freight. With disarming boldness they pierce all barriers.

Four or five families live together in old stores. Whether in Brooklyn, Turkey or Bohemia, the gypsies are unhampered by furniture. Squatting on rugs they eat or talk. To sleep they lay their bedding out on the floor—bedding that has traveled for half a century and across half a world.

From the "Garden of Europe."

The "Pizzeria Napolitana" marks a Latin boundary. From Southern Sicily and Naples, the "Garden of Europe," come these Italians. It is not surprising that the fish peddler does not shout his "calamari," but sings them in comic opera style. Poverty is dressed in color—even rags are red and green and orange.

Food is perhaps poorer here than anywhere in the city. Peas are sold in cans with the label "Below U. S. standard—Low quality but not illegal." Meats sold almost nowhere else find their market here. For 2½ cents one buys a pound of pigs' feet. In another store, pigs' heads, dangling on a bar like heads strung on a gallows, sell for the same price.

Night in the Slums.

Night changes the color of the slums but not its tempo. Dim lights throw shadows over cobblestone gutters that look as medieval as Nuremberg; every street from Myrtle Avenue down toward the navy yard is alive with people who seem to wake only for the evening.

Street lights grow dim as dawn breaks. Day comes swiftly here. Italians push their carts under the Fulton Street elevated. Gypsy children in torn shoes, with faces still unwashed, dash out of their houses. Street hawkers begin their game of evading the cops. The coffeepots hum. The Negroes and Spaniards, with temporary jobs, walk briskly to the elevated trains and trolley cars. The unemployed and homeless trudge on, looking up at Brooklyn's skyscrapers. Men who have slept with newspapers wrapped about them roll up their covers in the shadow of a great bank building.

NEW YORK
WORLD—
Telegram
MAY 12 1934

Neighborhood Rehabilitated by Club with Negro Leader

How an underprivileged community in the Bronx is being rehabilitated through the work of a club with a Negro leader was described by Professor Edmund de S. Brunner, of Teachers' College, at the conference on "Building a Better World," conducted at the Waldorf-Astoria by the New York Principals Assn. today, with more than 1,000 city educators and crime specialists attending.

"Public Schools, 2, 42 and 55 face a difficult situation," he said. The population is largely Negro and foreign. The poverty is extreme. The housing is bad. Crime and delinquency rates are high.

"The school superintendents, the visiting teacher, the United Parents Assn. decided to attack the problem, especially in terms of the Negro boys. A club was formed and a Negro leader secured. It grew. White boys clamored for admittance. They were taken in. The quarters were poor. The equipment was negligible. But the will was strong.

"The school people dug down in their own jeans to finance the enterprise. CWA funds were secured for the leader. Parents became interested, and now a supporting parents' organization has been formed with Negroes and whites, Jews and Gentiles, represented on its board. Already the discipline problems in the school are lessening. Juvenile delinquency has ceased increasing; indeed, has declined.

"There is a new spirit throughout the entire neighborhood. Problems galore exist, but there is now a David ready to face a Goliath represented by these problems. And it comes about because New York school men and women recognized that schools could not build citizenship merely within the four walls of school buildings and because they dared in a most discouraging situation not only to plan but also to begin to build better communities by supplying some better facilities for leisure.

"When I consider what the schools have done in the way of changing the dietary habits of our people I am inclined to believe that if we could bring to several successive generations of pupils the data on the possibilities of more healthful and richer living through better community planning and better housing, New York City by 1960 or 1965 could be changed into a veritable city beautiful."

Abraham Lefkowitz, of the Teachers Union; Peter Grimm, of the Citizens' Budget Commission; Robert Simon, chairman of the School Survey Committee, and Dr. Eugene Lawler, of Teachers' College, were to discuss "Meeting the Cost For New and Better Education" at one of the eleven round tables, supervised by Principal C. Frederick Pertsch, of P. S. 29, Brooklyn.

The discussions were to be summarized at a luncheon. Miss Regina C. M. Burke, principal of P. S. 39 Bronx, was in charge of the program.

New York Times
JUL 18 1934

Negro Children Need Help.

To the Editor of The New York Times:

The New York Urban League has equipped its twenty-one-acre plot at Verplanck, N. Y., as a Summer camp for Negro children. This land was originally acquired by the league as a convalescent home for Negro mothers and young children, but due to the expense involved has not until now actually been put to use.

The league feels that due to the fact that three camps for Negro children in this State are not open this Summer and that other camps have so many applications from white children that their accommodations for Negroes will be very limited, it was our duty to make available this property as a Summer camp. We are able to receive children at the modest cost of $4 a week; $6 will furnish transportation and a week's outing; $10 two weeks and $30 will pay for the entire season.

The children to be received will come from the poorest homes. For many of them it will be their first trip to the country and they will be given the opportunity of meeting for the first time the birds, animals and flowers that they have up to now only heard about. Checks may be sent to me at 32 Franklin Street.

FREDERIC KERNOCHAN.

New York, July 9, 1934.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

New York.

MAYOR DEFENDS HARLEM.

When a group of executives of the French Line, chaperoned by Joseph Baldwin Clark, and the former minority leader of the Board of Aldermen, visited Mayor LaGuardia at the City Hall wanted to see "a typical Negro resort in Harlem," or "a dive," the Mayor bluntly stated that the Harlem "hot spots" are no more typical of life among New York Negroes than are the resorts to which gullible visitors to Paris are taken typical of the life of France.

Mayor La Guardia might have added that "hot spots" easily found in Mr. Baldwin's silk stocking district, even on Park Avenue, or on Riverside Drive are not typical of these two sections. But it was not the Cotton Club, with its high class, refined entertainment, or Small's Paradise for which the French executives were in search, but some low-down dump where everything goes and the more licentious the carrying on the better.

Not since the Carl Van Vechtens began painting word pictures of Negro Harlem, giving the outside world an incorrect impression of this muchly maligned community, has a white public official come to its defense so outspokenly, for which we wish to commend him.

TRENTON, N. J.
TIMES
OCT 21 1934

NEGROES SPREADING OUT

There have been various phases of the so-called Negro problem since the World War created a pronounced shortage of labor in the North and induced an extensive inroad of migrants from the South.

New York reports the latest embarrassment which takes the form of a partial desertion of Harlem that had come to be regarded as the Negro's own. The Negroes are seeking new homes in sections hitherto reserved by whites, some colored families being found even on fashionable Riverside Drive. They live, too, in apartments facing parts of Central Park and are spreading out in other sections. This all means that the Negroes have prospered and are seeking homes of better quality. Meanwhile, empty dwellings are becoming common in Harlem and it may be that more or less impoverished whites will move into them.

In a small way Trenton and other American cities are having a similar experience. It is a long day since the "Swamp" contained nearly all that there was of the local colored population. We see them now in dozens of thoroughfares and the penetration into white districts becomes constantly more pronounced.

One feature of a reassuring character is found in the higher standards of living being adopted by so many Negroes. Much of the repugnance to close contact with these colored brethren in the past has been due to lower habits of living. They certainly are entitled to better housing conditions, whether in their own special neighborhood or elsewhere.

Negroes Pay High Rents In Rockaway

By a Worker Correspondent

ROCKAWAY BEACH, N. Y.—As workers and fighters for the rights of the working class and the Negro people, we decided to write a letter to the Daily Worker about conditions of the Negro people in Rockaway Beach.

We know that this paper is a friend of both Negro and white workers. For that reason we want you to know the condition of Negroes in Hammel.

We read that the Negro and white workers in Chicago and Detroit are fighting for their rights. It is high time for the Negro and white workers of Hammels to wake up as conditions are very bad there. The Negroes in Hammel are discriminated against in many public places. They are forced to live in houses where there is no electric light nor steam heat, where there is bad water conditions, and still they have to pay high rents. Take a place like the court between 83rd St. and 84th St., which is too filthy for a human being to live in.

There are two restaurants in Hammel, the heart of the Negro district, which don't hire any Negro help. These are the Seven Brothers and the White Palace. Something should be done about it.

Or take the case of a family living at 230 83rd St. They have five children. They have to pay $30 per month rent for the house which contains no electricity and no steam heat. There is no one in the family working, and they can't get any kind of help from the city, the Welfare in Richmond Hill, because they have only been in the State seven months.

There are many such cases in Hammel. In fact, they are too numerous to name.

Negro and white workers of Rockaway, wake up. Make an effort to help yoursleves, and the ones that are suffering in Hammel and Rockaway Beach.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1934

New York

Slum Clearance In The Harlem Area In Relation To Its Racial Social And Economic Problems

New York Age 6-12-34

New York, N.Y.

By VERE E. JOHNS

In any analysis of living and housing conditions in New York that portion of Manhattan where the greatest part of the Negro population resides calls for particular study by reason of the unique racial, social and economic problems involved.

For general purposes one should embrace the area enclosed from 102nd street to West 155th street and Harlem River and between Amsterdam avenue, and the Harlem River, and for particular purposes that from 110th steeet to West 155th street and Harlem River, and between Amsterdam and Park avenues.

While genuine slum areas are to be found between Eighth avenue and the Harlem River and more particularly east of Lenox avenue, the housing conditions have been discovered to be very poor generally accrding to data collected for the Municipal Housing Authority (Langdon W. Post, chairman) by the personnel of the Intensive Housing Survey.

A Block Survey

A close scrutiny of a selected block that can be accepted as a mean between good and poor reveals interesting information. This block comprises 44 lots made up of 57 stores, and 465 apartments (2,012 rooms) with a land area of 150,208 square feet and a net rentable area of 290,023 square feet. For purposes of this analysis property owned by the City of New York and in public use and also by a national institution is eliminated.

PHYSICAL: Of a total of ten arrangements of buildings the block contains 24 typical brownstone houses, 13 Renovated Dumb bell, three Box room layouts and one New Law Tenement, the last named being the only fire-proof building in the block. There are also two buildings that have been burnt out by fire and six condemned and vacated.

A physical analysis reveals that the average physical condition of the block was only 46.5 per cent and that out of a total rentable area of 290,032 square feet actually only 130,579 square feet was fit for human habitation.

The block is inhabited by 319 families consisting of 737 adults and 250 children and it was found that those have 60 per cent of ideal air and light, are supplied with equipment (baths, toilets, basins and sinks) in 35 per cent condition and live in buildings whose physical condition is 40 per cent for exterior and interior. When it is considered that if the block were 75 per cent condition it would be fairly undesirable, a 46.5 per cent total rating is pretty bad.

New York Age 6-12-34

ECONOMIC: The total assessed value of the block is $1,004,100 (Land $560,000). Of the 41 buildings, three are free and clear, four have been foreclosed and 34 carry an aggregate mortgage debt of $513,667. The land value is approximately $3 per square foot. It takes $6,912 per month to operate the block plus $2,568 mortgage interest. Here is a discouraging monthly statement.

INCOME	
Rental (48 stores)	$ 1,971
Rental (314 Apartments	8,545
Total Income	$10,516
Possible Rental	
9 Stores (vacant)	460
151 Apartments (vacant)	1,812
Gross Income	$12,788
OUTGO	
Mortgage Interest	$2,568
Operating Expense	6,912
	$9,480
Balance	$1,036
Possible Balance	$3,308

At first glance it would appear that the landlords could clear their expenses and have from $1,036 to $3,308 per month to pay off the mortgage principal, but when it is learned that the tenants owe them $11,659 in rental arrears which may or may not be collectable, it must be assumed that at the time of survey the block was in red to the tune of $10,623.

This opens up the question of the economic status of Harlem's people. The Harlem slogan is that the Negro is "the last to be hired and the first to be fired" and this is borne out by the fact that fully 60 per cent of Harlem's Negro population of 257,247 are legitimately unemployed. The majority of colored workers are engaged in menial work in and out of Harlem, and a small percentage have found employment in the professional, commercial, religious, Civil Service and artisan fields. Yet for all this they receive lower wages than the whites and pay in comparison a much higher rental. A large number eke out a catch-as-can existence in illicit and sub-rosa activities such as the policy game, bootlegging, gambling and prostitution, most of them not from choice but from absolute necessity. As the economic status of Negro Harlem arose, so would crime and immorality diminish.

Population

In an area stretching from 102nd street to as far North as West 181st street Washington Bridge, West 155th street and the Harlem River, and enclosed between the Hudson and Harlem rivers are to be found almost the whole of Manhattan's Negro population. To census figures prepared by the Land Utilization Committee of the New York Building Congress for the year 1930 a 30 per cent decrease has been made of the whites and a 30 per cent increase for the Negroes which will give fairly accurate figures for 1933.

	1933	1920
White	317,247	606,416
Negro	257,247	75,810
TOTAL	574,494	682,226

Thus in ten years while the number of whites has decreased by 289,169 (chiefly through migration to other parts of the city) the Negroes through influx from the South and the West Indies more than doubled their number by the large figure of 181,437.

Starting as low as 23rd street, New York's colored population gradually moved north. In 1933 there were found a total of 255,777 people living south of 125th street, of which 194,981 were white and 60,796 Negroes; north of 125th street were 318,717 comprised of 122,266 whites and 196,451 Negroes.

New York Age 6-12-34

The Harlem River apparently stopped the movement north and east, so the Negro turned west. A further analysis of the figures reveals a steady exodus of whites from the area and an equal and steady influx of Negroes. Above Eighth avenue 97,118 whites moved away to other parts of New York and 48,491 Negroes came in; between Eighth and Lenox avenues 60,397 whites departed and the Negro population increased by 83,290, and between Lenox avenue and the Harlem River 133,654 whites sought better neighborhoods and births and immigratin added 49,656 Negroes. A narrowing down of the area will reveal where the Negro population is principally located—the spot really known in prose, poetry and song as "Harlem." This is the area bounded on the South by East 112th street, Central Park and West 110th street, on the West by Amsterdam and upper Eighth avenues, on the north by West 155th street and the Harlem River and on the East by upper Park avenue.

Reference to the table of figures published on the front page will show that 13 years has considerably changed the color of "Harlem," so to speak. Though the total population has increased by 22,972, there are 138,073 less whites and 160,045 more Negroes.

Racial And Social

The trend of movement of Negroes has been away from Harlem River in the East and towards the Hudson River in the west. Where 2,051 lived above Eighth avenue (Washington Heights) in 1920, are found now 44,688, while the whites dwindled from 57,089 to 16,209 or a decrease of 40,880.

Harlem's colored population is 60 per cent American, 30 per cent West Indian and 10 per cent of Cuban, Porto Rican and other foreign born; quite a few of the foreign born have become naturalized citizens. There has been no attempt to form group sections with the exception of the "Spanish" element, who are almost entirely south of 118th street.

Residentially, and as far as their economic condition permits it, the people who desire better and more wholesome environment move west of Lenox avenue, then west of Seventh avenue, then west of Eighth avenue, then along Edgecombe, Bradhurst, St. Nicholas and Convent avenues, and lastly up on the Heights as far as Amsterdam avenue.

Where is the Negro heading? Beyond Amsterdam avenue lies commercial Broadway and wealthy Riverside Drive. This brings in the social side. Each year sees a greater percentage of culture and education as the younger generation comes of age, and these people crave for better living conditions so that they may maintain their accepted standards of respectability. The egress of those families from "Harlem" is not easy today. A few have migrated to not-so-good sections of the Bronx, but any attempt to invade a more respectable area is met with strong objection on the part of the whites; evidence of this is found in the recent scenes enacted at an apartment house on University avenue. It is to be anticipated that movement west of Amsterdam avenue will be met with equal opposition. Eastwards lies the Harlem River and to the south Central Park and its environments East and West; the Negroes have never shown any tendency to retrace their steps downtown. They are caught in a sectional trap and must make the best of it.

Economic Bonds Too

Negroes would not migrate from Harlem if they had decent living conditions. They know that from one end to the other they pay more rent, in comparison with environments, than the people in any other section of the city. But they never profit by moving for they invariably move into houses whose rentals are far out of proportion to the physical value. It is safe to say that the rentals in the colored sections on St. Nicholas and Edgecombe avenues, and points West, range from $10 to $25 per room. If the whites desire that Negroes should voluntarily remain in the area they now occupy, it is to their advantage to see that they get better houses to live in and improved living conditions.

Unlike the Lower East Side (which is largely commercial and where the business people are also residents), fully 80 per cent of the business activity in Harlem is conducted by whites who live outside of the area and spend the bulk of their earnings to benefit and im-

prove other communities.

Again, Harlem, for the most part is in the hands of absentee owners whose holdings are administered by agents; these owners care little and know less of the condition of their tenants and are only interested in the income from their holdings, and the agents are chiefly concerned in realizing that income and can have no civic interest in a community that they do not have to live in. The Negro has been left few avenues for legitimate employment, has had to depend largely on white patronage and by reason of the fact that at least 60 cents of every dollar spent leaves Harlem never to return, the people lack financial power to enter, maintain and successfully support commercial enterprises now controlled by the whites.

Those who have marveled at how the Negroes in Harlem have managed to keep up appearances during the years of depression must realize that, without the illegal rackets and illicit practices that many of them have been forced into, they would long ago have descended into degradation and starvation. They chafe at their economic bonds and cry for a slackening of the pressure so that their children may have an improved future before them. This economic condition is at the base of all their troubles and the greatest step towards eliminating slum conditions altogether will be the improved economic status of the people.

The Place To Begin

Whether people like the term or not, Harlem can be said to be 60 per cent slum, and hundreds of respectable families are economically forced to live in slum environments. A very efficient field squad operating under Hiram Connor and comprised of "white collar" colored workers went through the area north of 125th street and between Seventh avenue and the Harlem River. These men were inspired with the importance and the necessity of the work they were doing and they spared no effort to get at the real facts. They were pained and shocked at some of the conditions under which thousands of colored and white families were living.

The worst slum districts are to be found east of Lenox avenue, and what the investigators saw and experienced would fill volumes. To give a couple of instances: In one house it was found that for two months there had been neither cold nor hot water, heat nor light, and an inspection of bath tubs, sinks and toilets disclosed a nauseating accumulation of garbage, excreta, etc., and in this atmosphere there were sick children. Other investigators found a row of houses, the width of an entire block where the houses were in the most abominable physical condition—doors and windows broken, floors and ceilings sagging and the very toilets in the halls had been taken out by vandals who had easy ingress. Other conditions such as overcrowding, inadequate heat and fresh air, fire hazzards and insanitary inconveniences were frequently seen. If any section of New York needs rehabilitation Harlem does, and a half-an-hour's visit to any block in the area named above would convince the most skeptical individual.

An ideal area to try out an experiment in slum clearing and in Block Reorganization would be the area from 127th street to 130rd street between Lenox and Park avenues. If the mean block surveyed at the beginning of this article was bad, the blocks in this area are 500 per cent worse in every way. This area comprises 18 city blocks containing 884 lots. There are included in this number one public school, five churches, six garages, four warehouses, two factories, one theatre and a power house. The entire remaining 800 odd buildings should be torn down with perhaps one or two exceptions, where some modern building has been more recently erected. There are no redeeming features about these buildings physically or economically, and in them live some 20,000 people who pay rentals (when they can pay it) ranging from $4 to $10 per room, most of them for filthy dumps that are not fit to offer to dogs as free kennels. The question as to whether the landlords are to be blamed for these conditions, or the tenants, is just as hard to solve as the time-honored one of "Who came first, the hen or the egg?"

An improved Harlem will be of benefit to the City of New York. Give the Negro an economic lift and he will show results. The place for Slum Clearance to begin is Harlem and the time is—NOW!

Harlem, however, will not have improved housing conditions unless its people clamor for them. To remain silent and inactive will get them nothing. It is up to the masses to spur on their leaders (political, religious and otherwise) and for those leaders to go downtown and present an urgent case to the proper authorities. And, believe me, they have more than an urgent case.

Social Workers To Meet

How the Negro in New York rides the emergency, with reference to various work projects, bureaus created to handle relief, and opportunities in civil service, will be discussed at the State Conference of Negro Social Workers to be held at the Y. M. C. A. on June 8th to 9th. The conference will bring here 200 delegates who will take part in group discussions and make reports of work that has been done by social workers. The findings of the studies that have been carried on by investigators relative to delinquency and crime as it effects the Negro in the state will be reported at the conference.

NEW DECK WITH JOKER OUT, SEEN AS GROUP NEED

New York State Social Workers Hear G. B. Darby.

NRA HAS GIVEN LITTLE RELIEF

Body Okeys F. D.'s Social Insurance Plan.

(Special to the AFRO)

NEW YORK—"Not only a new deal, but a new deck, with the joker taken out of it, is what the colored man needs," Golden B. Darby, Syracuse, president of the New York State Conference of Negro Social Workers, told 110 delegates attending the second annual meeting of the organization in the West 135th Street YMCA last week.

Mr. Darby's plea for the New Deal came at a dinner to the delegates Friday evening, a few hours after David C. Adie, white, state commissioner of social welfare, had given the initial talk of the conference, pointing out the weaknesses of current relief attempts, and prophesying that six or seven million people will continue unemployed for several years. The conference continued through Saturday.

Commend Roosevelt

Before adjournment, the conference also ordered that a resolution be sent to President Roosevelt commending him for his recent message to Congress outlining his plan for social legislation for "the security of the home, the security of livelihood, and the security of social insurance."

On the program with Mr. Darby Friday night were also Judge Frederic C. Kernochan, white, chairman of the New York Urban League, who declared himself impressed with the fact that "the colored raw material is much better than the raw material in many other sections and among several other racial and nationality groups."

From his 25-year experience as judge, he also believes that "there are fewer repeaters among colored criminals."

Go After Public Jobs

Lisle Burroughs, white, assistant to the director of the Temporary Emergency Relief Administration, told that no racial discrimination is allowed to enter into the consideration of his body. Jesse O. Thomas, southern director of the National Urban League, stressed that colored persons should go after public jobs regardless of whether they will have to serve colored people alone or not.

Henry K. Craft, executive secretary of the West 135th Street YMCA extended his greetings. Jack Blumstein, white, of the L. M. Blumstein's department store, which is now being raked over the coals for refusing to give jobs to colored people, spoke on behalf of his aunt, Mrs. L. M. Blumstein, a generous donor to the local Urban League. Miss Ethel Brown, of Atlanta, Ga., sang.

Mr. Darby called for a "new deck" after he had pointed out that the NRA had not brought any relief to colored people in his part of the state, and that, in the general administrative setup of the state goverment, few colored people are given the chance to share in the social planning and social rehabilitation which is the order of the day. "For this new deck," he repeated, "we must see that the joker is taken out."

Workers Squeezed Out

He related that in Syracuse, workers are being squeezed out of even those jobs maintained by public funds. In the present building of an elevated railroad crossing, financed by the state, the city of Syracuse, and the New York Central railroad, not a single colored man is employed, although 300 white men were brought from Indiana, he said.

Mr. Darby was told by the contractors that "only skilled men" were needed, but upon investigation he found, he said, that any number of the men were just pushing steel wheelbarrows of concrete and bricks. Keeping colored people out of jobs are making them to be the heaviest dependents on relief, he declared.

Relief No Remedy

Commissioner Adie was emphatic in declaring that relief cannot be the remedy for unemployment. He proposed finding secondary lines of employment "outside the relief structure," employment which will not necessitate recording of case histories and a person's pedigree, "as if they thought those in need were responsible for the terrible situation in which we find ourselves."

He maintained that some setup like the CWA will have to continue—"only much better organized and directed."

"We have 12,000,000 unemployed today," he said, "and we may as well make our minds that we are going to have at the very least between six and seven million years to come."

Walter W. Pettit, white, of the New York School Social Work, stressed the need for trained social workers, and said that the depression and the large scale relief program had sent 22,000 people in the social work field, without the necessary training.

Discussions on "Difficulties in Maintaining Social Standards," led by Mrs. Pearl Grissom, director of the Lincoln House, Glen Cove, L.I., and on "Vocation Opportunities for Negroes in New York City," led by Miss Emma S. Gilbert, closed Friday afternoon's session.

One pointed question was asked by William Evans, executive secretary of the Buffalo Urban League, who wanted to know, "How can we maintain high standards and the morale of our staff with the number of untrained people whom we have taken on from the relief administration with salaries higher than those we are able to pay our regular employees?"

There was no answer.

Discuss Stranded

Saturday morning was devoted to symposia on stranded population in small communities, institutional care, probation and parole, and the church and social work. Mrs. Gladys Hirst Banks, director of the Community Center, Tuckahoe, presided.

Among those leading in the several discussions of the conference were: Miss Josephine Pinyan Holmes, Brooklyn branch of State Employment Service; Miss Doris Madison, Home Relief Bureau; Miss Emma Shields Penn, of the West 137th Street YWCA, and Mrs. Carita V. Roane, State Employment Service;

Also Samuel A. Allen, special TERA representative; A. G. Fallings, field executive, Boy Scouts of America; James H. Baker, Jr., director, Albany Interracial Council; William A. Traynham, of N.Y. Urban League; and Charles C. Allison and George Royal, probation officers.

Friday night the delegates were guests of the Savoy; Saturday they went in a body to see "Stevedore," the play based on white-colored labor life in the South; in the evening they were guests at a reception in the auditorium of the YWCA "Crabbed Youth," a one-act play, was given by Mrs. Venzella Jones, and dancing followed. The local courtesy committee of the conference consisted of Misses M. V. Walker, Dorothy Saunders, Elyse Hilliard, Eva Parker, and Mrs. Dorothy Harris.

Out-of-towners attending the Conference were as follows:

G. B. Darby, Dunbar Community Center, Syracuse; Beatrice Alston, S.S. Federation, Englewood, N.J.; Mrs. L. T. Alexander, Pearl Street Neighborhood House, Waterbury, Conn.; Geraldine Claire, Dunbar Association, Syracuse; Mrs. A. U. Craij, Katy Ferguson House, Mt. Vernon; Mrs. Marie Crawley, Buffalo Urban League, Buffalo; Mrs. L. B. Darby, Dunbar Association, Syracuse; Joseph R. Dorsey, Boys' Training School, Norwich; N. P. Dotsan, S.S. Federation, Englewood, N.J.; R. S. Garner, Pearl Street Neighborhood House, Waterbury, Conn.; Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Gibbs, Dunbar Association, Syracuse; Mrs. E. Gordon, 52 Main Street, Paterson, N.J.; Miss T. A. Greene, Buffalo Urban League, Buffalo; Mrs. S. S. Hobday, A.I.C.P., Tuckhoe; William E. Jackson, 155 Cedar Street, Buffao; Herbert Johnson, Dunbar Association, Syracuse;

Mrs. Florence Monose, Mt. Vernon Welfare Dept., Mt. Vernon; Miss Nena Mullings, Buffalo Urban League, Buffalo; Mrs. Marjorie Noisette, 66 3rd Street, Albany; Mrs. John M. Pollard, Booker T. Washington Center, Auburn; Edward M. Powell, Dunbar Community Center, Syracuse; John Silvera, N.J. State Board of Child Guidance, Newark, N.J.; Miss Alice H. White, Essex County T. B. League Newark, N.J.;

Miss Winifred Whittaker, TERA, Glen Cove, L.I.; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Baker, Albany; Miss Elise Crawford DPW, New Rochelle; Pearl Grissom, Lincoln House, Glen Cove, L.I.; Miss Bertha Herrington, White Plains Urban League, White Plains, N.Y.; Chester Jackson, DPW. Buffalo; Charles F. Minor, DPW, New Rochelle; Thomas E. Morris, DPW, New Rochelle; Arthur Davis, White Plains Urban League, White Plains; William Evans, Buffalo Urban League, Buffalo.

North Carolina

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
July 29, 1934

Tal · Up Problem Of Negro Housing

Dr. G. L. Rea, city health officer, has taken up with Mayor Arthur H. Wearn the housing problem in negro sections of the city, it was learned yesterday.

Dr. Rea pointed out that many of the buildings are not constructed in accordance with the law so far as sanitary conditions are concerned, and suggested that drastic steps be taken.

The health officer further contended that the death rate among negroes is steadily increasing, as a result principally of insanitary conditions.

It is expected that the housing problem will be taken up by the city council at an early date.

"Our largest death ratio is among the negro population," Dr. Rea said, "and this fact is due principally to the very unhealthy conditions that exist. Many of the houses are constructed in violation to the law with reference to sanitary conditions."

Hendersonville, N. C. Times
August 27, 1934

NEGRO RELIEF BODY TO MEET

Society of Necessity in Annual Gathering Wednesday Night

H. S. Simmons, colored, founder of the Society of Necessity, has announced the annual meeting of that organization, formed in 1885, to be held at the Flat Rock school house on Wednesday evening, Aug. 29, at 9 o'clock. The program will take the form of an annual benefit by which the society raises funds for work among colored people of this section.

On the program for this occasion are Rev. W. M. Hamilton, of Asheville, who will give the invocation; an address by Rev. W. C. Brown, D.D., also of Asheville, and the response, by Rev. E. W. Dixon, of Asheville.

H. S. Simmons said in announcing the program of this society that he would be interested to know if any organization in the state has had a president in office continuously since 1885. He said that he had declared himself president of the body after gathering a few friendly workers around him and that he had continued in that office ever since.

POST
Charlotte, N. C.
OCT 20 1934

Who Likes A Shanty?

The eye sores in Negro neighborhoods will never disappear until Negroes themselves drive them out. Their bad paving and sidewalks, their uncollected refuse, their nuisances get as little attention from the authorities as if they were in China because the authorities live in other parts of the city. No use to blame them for not tirking at evils when the persons affected do nothing.

It would seem that self-preservation and self-respect would make Negroes try to get away from bad housing. Since a home is more than four walls, the surroundings and the neighbors being an inescapable part of it, they should stop being content with living across the railroad tracks" where wells and cesspools exist even in cities with water and sewer systems

Good housing cost money and effort. Even the rich get good surroundings and good neighbors on those terms. Negroes have no special dispensation whereby they can get them for nothing. They have the wish. But seventy years after freedom, three generations removed from the log cabin, they lack the wit to see that it is their own neglect rather than race prejudice which makes them victims of grasping, inconsiderate landlords, and neglectful authorities.

Other evils follow naturally after bad housing Inadequate fire and police protection and lack of parks and other public conveniences are the official response to Negroes' neglect of their own interests. They need not say that they complain It is work, not words that counts.

Until Negroes are willing to be taxed to provide public improvements, they are going to be thrust back into unimproved areas. It is not a matter altogether of color. A white neighbor who resisted public improvements would also be undesirable. Negroes cannot get a hearing for their excuse that they do not have money for public improvements. In this practical world, it is what a man does, not what he wishes to do by which he is measured.

But all the effort at better housing is not a matter of money. Some of it needs only understanding and courage. The garbage center which was driven from section after section in a certain city, was placed in the Negro neighborhood without even a protest being made by churches and individuals that became neighbors to it. Negroes do not even make protest when businesses, undesirable because of their noise or smell or ugliness come among them. The junk yard is as we come as a park o judge by their silence.

Negroes ought to draw the line on some kinds of people as well as some kinds of buildings and businesses. They cannot let undesirables come into their neighborhoods without themselves being lowered in the esteem of the world They are losers when they let rackets go unprotested for a price

Having left undone the thing which they ought to have done toward better homes, and having done the things which they ought not to have done, Negroes make a great show of indignation at the conditions around home which they themselves have let grow, but their complaining is more from habit than from any determination to do something. Officials see through their pretense and as a result they too do nothing.

From this negative, do nothing policy the only salvation is constructive citizenship In every community let Negroes take thought of their living conditions and organize to make them better. Start first with the block. Let all the home makers, especially the women get together to keep the lawns cut, the trees trimmed, the sidewalks clean, the houses painted and the children presentable. Once that much is done, which is easily in the neighborhood's power to do, they can extend their organization and make demands for public service equal to that of any other part of the city. No use fooling themselves even though race prejudice works to have it that way. Negroes are shanty folk more from choice than from necessity.

SOCIAL SERVICE WORK EXPANDS IN N. CAROLINA

FERA Head Reports 15 Race Nursery Schools

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Dr Grace Langdon, head of the FERA nursery schools, this week reported to Administrator Harry L. Hopkins real progress in this social service field throughout the South.

"The colored population of North Carolina is three-tenths that of the white," wrote Mrs. Mary G. Scarborough, state superintendent of nursery schools in North Carolina, "so thirty-five white and fifteen Negro nursery schools were approved by the State administration."

There is one colored nursery school in Greensboro, Gastonia, Greenville, Method, Goldsboro, New Bern, Black Mountain, Wilson Durham, Tarboro, and Winston-Salem, and two in both Wilmington and Charlotte. In each of these nursery schools there are two full-time colored teachers and two part-time workers.

Aids Needy Children

Twenty to thirty colored children of needy, unemployed parents are accommodated in each nursery school. Individual cots are supplied by the War Department, toys donated by the community, one or two meals a day including orange juice, fruits, and other food stuffs are contributed by the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation in many instances.

The colored women employed in the nursery schools are trained professional people, well versed in teaching children proper behavior, tidiness, dressing themselves, and in forming early habits of orderliness. Play is supervised and the youngsters are also taught group games and entertained by story telling.

Parents are often given additional instruction in child guidance and education

The children come at nine in the morning and stay until late after-

Greensboro, N. C., News
December 26, 1934

TRANSIENT NEGROES RECEIVE INSTRUCTION

Elementary School At Trinity Mission Apparently Does Much Good.

MANY ARE GIVEN HELP

The elementary school at Trinity mission for transient negro men, closed for the duration of the Christmas holidays, appears to be quite useful. The teachers are Edward Lindsay, graduate of A. and T. college, and F. S. Williams, Hampton graduate. Instruction in reading and writing is given; men who have been unable to read or write are given one week of such instruction before promotion from the labor squad.

From January, 1931, when Trinity mission was opened, until May, 1934, when it was taken over by the federal government with Rev. D. J. Gilmer as superintendent, with office and dining rooms at 715½ East Market street, 30,000 men were cared for at the mission. Including the time which has elapsed since the establishment became federal in scope as well as the preceding period three and one-third years, 40,000 men have been befriended.

So far, it was stated yesterday, there has not been a single report indicating the commission of a crime by any of the 40,000 transients, despite the fact that there has been an average case load of 50 men a day. Among the entire contingent, in a period of approximately four years, there have been only two deaths, the records show.

When arrangements were being made to provide shelter and other facilities for transients at 715½ East Market street, many local citizens declared themselves apprehensive as to the possibility of a large increase in crime in that section as a consequence. However, people in close touch with the situation state that since opening of the transient center there law observance has been increasingly general in that area. From time to time transients in the section mentioned have established contacts with men of criminal propensities and urged them to be law-abiding, such counsel having proved quite effective, available information indicates.

Rev. D. J. Gilmer preaches and lectures to the men twice daily on week days. Sunday school and recreational activities are popular with the transients. Arthur Headen, A. and T. college student, is recreational instructor. With a view to keeping the men off the streets during the early night hours, free smokes are provided for them. They are not permitted to go out after 10 o'clock at night.

North Carolina.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

Asheville N C Citizen
February 18, 1934

Negro Social Worker Is Improving Lot Of Colored People Here

By MARGARET LONG LEONARD

Into the alleys of Asheville's negro sections has penetrated a gleam of light that in a few short months has changed the complexion of several crime and disease ridden districts.

Ambition and enlightment are growing where before were inertia and ignorance. A sense of citizenship and race pride are wiping out crime and delinquency on many streets. Cleanliness is replacing dirt, and health, sickness.

These achievements are the work of the one-man negro welfare council of the Asheville Community Chest. Its program, directed by Leander G. Blackus, is carried out with the help of volunteers whose service is often part of their own rehabilitation.

Free Clinic Planned

The council's aim of moral, physical, and economic betterment, of the negro in Asheville will be vastly furthered by the establishment of a free clinic, dental and medical, to be opened within the next 10 days, it has been announced by Brackus. Its home will be the Odd Fellows' hall at Eagle and Biltmore streets, given by members of the negro organization.

Six negro doctors, two dentists, a pharmacist and a number of nurses enlisted to give their services two days a week are expected to serve between three and five thousand negroes a year—men, women and children who have no other access to medical and dental care and hygienic advice.

With its happy capacity for managing without money, the council plans to stock its medicine cabinets with samples from manufacturers, for a beginning. Many supplies have been promised and many more still are sought.

Besides its general medical and dental service, the clinic will specialize in pre-natal work and care and instruction for school children, the latter a curative and preventative program.

Has Small Budget

Last July Blackus, a young negro of dauntless idealism and tremendous capacity for work, organized the council here as an agency of the Community Chest on a budget of $106 a month, including salary, the smallest of any agency in the Chest.

Since that time the work of the council has brought commendation from local authorities and recognition from recreation and social workers prominent in the nation.

Judge Frazier Glenn of the juvenile court says: "Blackus has cooperated 100 per cent with the juvenile court and has done excellent work. His cooperation with the court and the offenders' parents in following the policies of the court work is invaluable, not only to the court but to the colored boys and girls of the community."

Pointing out that of "12 or 15 cases I have turned over to Blackus, only one has been a repeater," in the council's probation work with older boys, Judge Sam Cathey of the police court praised the council's "good work" as a "real force for crime prevention among the younger negroes."

Everett Praises Council

Chief of Police W. J. Everett considers the council's work "very good" and the director's record a fine one. The work is "entirely worthwhile," he said.

Recognition has come from an outstanding negro educator and perhaps the best known negro woman in the country, Mary Bethune, president of Bethune-Cookman Institute at Daytona, Fla., and a past president of the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, who said:

"Asheville is far ahead of other cities in safety among its young negro citizens."

Blackus began with playgrounds for negro children whose only fun was vandalism, thievery, and play in traffic-ridden streets, a situation leading scores into the juvenile court where they regularly appeared as incorrigibles headed for the chain-gang.

Organized Play Groups

He organized play for boys and girls. He began dealing individually with young criminals in exhaustive case work, study, and careful guidance.

He turned to homes of filth and poverty with his program of church going, cleanliness and dietetics. Many families were so ignorant they did not know they could get help from the city relief department, a condition to which was traced much stealing and other delinquency.

He ran across individual cases of wayward girls and established them on the path to independency and decency. He went to the jails with help for negro inmates.

Then he organized study groups, clubs, and play for men and women.

The report of the negro welfare council after its first month showed hundreds of children, and grown-ups playing, studying, and planning for a happy, decent future.

Council Making Progress

The council was proceeding in leaps and bounds along the usually slow and tortuous path of the social agency to human betterment.

"If people could see the kind of homes my work carries me into," Blackus said. He described a one-room shack where live a woman and two sons, eating what food they have with their fingers, sharing a torn mattress at night, and braving the weather without fuel or warm wraps. Another home, whence came his most incorrigible probation case—a boy repeatedly arrested for stealing—had eight children, a jobless father, and a washerwoman mother trying to feed the brood on a dollar or two a week.

Not all the cients of the council are of such stuff, however. While many leaders in athletics and club work have been developed from reclaimed boys and girls, some were enlisted from respectable intelligent and better-off negro families.

But of the negroes that Blackus helps, most of them are the dregs of the negro sections.

Playground Opened

A lot was cleared for a playground at Biltmore and Eagle streets, in the heart of downtown Asheville,, and baseball was the main attraction. Urchins flocked from the streets, alleys, and dirty shacks to play and idlers deserted nearby poolrooms to spend all day watching the games. Most of the players were prize juvenile court problems, boys from nine to 15 years old.

A previous survey showed that of the thievery that harassed the neighborhood storekeepers 90 per cent was committed by negro street urchins. In the first 10 days of the new playground stealing here was reduced between 70 and 75 per cent. Incredulous storekeepers are now joyful vouchers for the council.

A baseball diamond was marked off at McCormick Field the middle of July and from 10 o'clock in the morning until dark junior and senior leagues played—hundreds of little negro boys who had never really played in their lives. In four weeks there had been 2,125 spectators.

The Hill street playground equipped with sandbeds, chutes, swings, checkerboards, and provided with dramatics and story telling, had in the month of August 900 boys, 510 girls, 180 women, and 210 men as patrons.

Pool Well Patronized

The Mountain street swimming pool, open most of the summer until Labor Day had the following number of swimmers: 1,923 boys, 1,03[illegible] girls, 601 men, 515 women; and more than 200 spectators. Four volunteer life saving crews taught 100 to swim.

Each month the playground attendance has grown.

It is in probation work that the council's work is perhaps most apparent. Of 78 boys turned over to Blackus by the juvenile court and city police court, nearly all in their teens, 52 are now "model" schoolars, jobholders, or members of the council's play and hobby groups. Which means that these 52 have stopped stealing, knifing, or whatever the oft-repeated offense and now attend school and Sunday school regularly, a stipulation of probation.

Blackus' files tell story after story of a young offender despaired of by authorities, neighbors, and family, as vicious, hopeless, and criminal, now metamorphosed into a thoroughly "good boy" because he found a friend, a place to play, a hobby or job, and a reason for being a "good boy." Many of his probation boys are ambitious for trades and professions and are working toward careers. Several plan to turn social worker via Tuskegee institute, famous Alamaba Negro school.

Young Offender Reforms

One boy was arrested 12 times in a year. At 17 he was on his way to the chaingang. Placed on Blackus' probation list he soon had a job, and an ambition for a college education. While working to save for that, he is supporting his mother.

"It is all good material," says Blackus of his clients. "In each is a hidden spring which, if you reach it, you will get results."

Sometimes the spring is touched by plain, disarming kindness. Sometimes it is uncovered in play or study that reaches a responsive chord in a neglected boy's heart or brain. Or, by religious feeling. From that beginning, it is a matter of giving him play and activity and helping him develop his talent and interest to the point of definite ambition.

Closely related to and interwoven with probation work is what Blackus calls "general welfare work" and his boys' groups for work and play.

Scope Of Welfare Work

The welfare work includes visiting families of probationers, advising them on housekeeping, budgeting of money, dietetics, and particularly cleanliness. Those who have no bathtubs are taken weekly to the city jail for immersion and scrubbing which is to many a new experience.

Cleanliness of person, house, and grounds is a pet subject with the director who declares that "as long as sanitation remains what it is in negro districts, the white population is never free from the danger of fearful epidemics of disease breaking out."

One interesting reform method used is awakening of a religious feeling a strong force among the poor and hopeless.

"For instance," explained Blackus "when we have hiked to the woods I'll pick up a pine comb or a rock or flower and toss it to some boy I'm working with particularly. We'll talk of the origin of life, and suggests a Supreme Being. This is always an effective introduction to a religious feeling—where the boy himself came from and who made him—and leads to aspiration for betterment."

Ball League Organized

There are classes for gymnasium, handicraft, and several ball leagues for boys ranging from little fellows to the young man, all conducted by Blackus with volunteer leaders he has found and developed.

"I have to teach about one-third of them actually how to play. So many learn crime before they learn play."

In the summer a baseball league was organized for men, with stipulations as to morals and conduct. For instance one middle-aged man was suspended for cursing the umpire and "cried like a baby" when he was suspended from a game. Another was put out for living in adultery and he straightway dissolved that arrangement for good.

There are women's groups for basketball and gym. besides classes in home making, handicraft, and other practical arts.

With a nucleus of seven men and women, the council is preparing for city-wide dramatics in negro sections.

Track Teams Formed

Blackus also has organized track teams in negro schools, trained coaches, and planned an inter-school met for next May.

Another project of the council is the director's organization and supervision of classes at the Community Night schools. Paid teachers work under Blackus' volunteer direction. The nine classes include a nursery school which started with two and soon jumped to 65 members and others teaching shoe repairing, sewing, handicrafts, health and hygiene, cooking, other trades, and academic subjects. Most of the schooling is planned for much-needed practical use in home and daily life.

The jail classes have prepared several prisoners for trades which they will follow when released. One young man found he could draw and paint and decorated his cell and those of fellow-occupants. Plans are now working out to get him in a college to study art.

Economic Angle

If one wonders how all this will last in the face of the negro's economic plight, the director's idealism provides the answer.

"We are working to better ourselves in our jobs," he explains. "Girls are learning beauty culture, domestic science, and good cooking.

"I believe that a mistress will pay more for a maid who can manicure her nails, give her a facial, and dress her hair at home. A housewife will will value all the more the services of a cook who can buy groceries, plan meals, and prepare and serve them at a saving to her. So we are teaching pride in our jobs as a bet-

ter wages incentive.

"If a chauffeur studies maps for routes that save gasoline and make driving pleasanter, if he knows cars and their economical upkeep, he is worth more to his employer. If bellboys and waiters know their city and their section and are trained to give efficient service, they will make more money.

"You tell us this is a world of specialists. Then we are going to be specialists at our jobs."

It is time for intelligent negroes with business talent to venture into trading, thinks Blackus. If whites can operate corner grocery stores in negro sections, then trained negroes can do it for their own pople.

Race pride is being inculcated by the council's teachings.

"I do not hold with those educators who want to make negroes white-minded," says Blackus. "They should think and read books from the standpoint of the negro, for nothing is to be gained by their seeing things through the eyes of a white world. That does not fit them for their jobs, trades, and professions in their world which is definitely negro.

"We want them to feel pride in the achievements of their own leaders. I should like, for instance, for my people to know that the first man to give his life in the Battle of Bunker Hill was a negro and that a negro surgeon, Dr. Dan Williams, was the first man to operate on the human heart."

A conservative and practical for all his idealism, Blackus wants his people to read the books of conservative and realistic negro writers and not the radicalism of some of the younger negro authors.

Native Of Philadelphia

Blackus is a Philadelphia native and a graduate of the Philadelphia High school. He was educated at Tuskegee and Temple university in Philadelphia and the extension school of Alabama State college.

He has coached athletics at Tuskegee and Florida A. and M. college and taught physical education at Alabama State college. He has conducted club work for children and adults and supervised play, pageants, dancing, glee clubs, and community gatherings, and has had experience in directing high school dramatics. For five years Blackus was welfare worker at the Tennessee Coal and Iron company. He came to Asheville last summer from a school teaching position in Alabama.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
March 31, 1934

OXFORD NATIVE SUCCEEDS OXLEY

Wm. R. Johnson Picked to Conduct Negro Welfare For State Board

William Randolph Johnson has been appointed to the staff of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare to succeed Lieutenant Lawrence A. Oxley as Negro welfare officer.

Johnson, a native of Oxford but for the past few years a resident in Virginia, will assume his duties on May 1, according to an announcement made yesterday by Mrs. W. T. Bost, State welfare head. She described him as well-qualified by training and experience to do the work. He attended Mary Potter Memorial School in Oxford, was graduated from the Virginia Union College in Richmond and studied during the Summer of 1928 in the New York School of Social work.

For 18 months Johnson served as probation officer in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court of Richmond. For the past several years he has been pastor of the Central Baptist Church of Norfolk. His duties with the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare will be largely in the nature of a field worker in the interest of promoting the Negro welfare program in the State.

He will be assisted in starting his work by Lieut. Oxley, who resigned after nine years service to become a commissioner of conciliation in the United States Department of Labor.

Lieut. Oxley was sworn in his new office Thursday. He was a member of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, serving with the section dealing with the handicapped Negro child. While with the State Board he made valuable contributions to two social studies, "Capital Punishment in North Carolina" and Negro Child Welfare", and was the author of numerous other articles touching phases of Negro life in this State.

Serving as a first lieutenant in the army during the World War, Lieut. Oxley returned to this country and became field director for community service in the states of Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana and Kentucky. For three years he taught social science at St. Augustine's College here.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
NEWS

MAR 28 1934

Follow the Arrows.

There seems to be considerable doubt as to just which agencies or public officials shall make bold to cooperate with the Negro ministers whose appeal to combat crime among their race was delivered recently to the city council. Maybe The News, which is vitally interested, can be of some service.

The remedies suggested are explicit enough. They, together with our own allocation of responsibility, follow:

(1) Improvement of housing conditions.

This calls for an immediate and sustained inspection service by the city building authorities, the condemnation of unsafe and unlivable dwellings, and the further, practical consideration of slum eradication.

(1) (a) Better street and sanitary facilities.

These lie within the provinces of the city departments corresponding, orders to which should emanate from the council and the civil service commission respectively.

(2) Better police protection in the Negro sections.

This is a matter for the civil service commission to initiate and the council to further by whatever additions to the police personnel are necessary.

(3) Impartial enforcement of the law without regard to race and adequate punishment for Negroes convicted of crimes against Negroes.

This — ah! — this is within the jurisdiction of the minor and major courts, their judges and the public prosecutors. Especially, we believe, of the public prosecutors on whose preparation verdicts may be won or lost.

Fayetteville, N. C., Observer
April 13, 1934

Negro Welfare Organization Launches Campaign Here For Operating Funds

Plans for raising $500 with which to carry out its program of racial uplift and improvement will be made by the board of directors of the Young Men's Improvement association, local negro welfare organization, within the next few days.

David Worthington Brooks, founder and president of the organization, declares that the purpose is to put a full time worker in charge of the activities of the association as soon as the funds are available.

Character building among the negro youth as a solution to racial problems are stressed by the officers of the association.

The president of the Y. M. I. A. states:

"For 15 years we have studied every phase of the race issue and have tried to create a desire on the part of our people to lend their aid in furthering character building not only until Fayetteville and Cumberland county had caught the vision but until the negroes of North Carolina and every other state had accepted it as the only feasible solution. . . .

"It seems to me that when such outstanding men as Paul Green become aroused over the large percentage of 'ignorant negroes' waiting to be executed and when liberal editors are stressing the necessity for giving the negro an opportunity to be a better and more useful citizen, that our own people would come to the rescue of the movement having for its object the raising of the standard of our people."

The association president comments on the aid that has been extended by the city of Fayetteville and by philanthropic individuals of the city.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
OBSERVER

JUN 25 1934

"RELIEF WILL FEED US."

(Charlotte News)

The local U. S. employment bureau had a call one day this week for 35 negroes to go to Union county and chop cotton. Superintendent Drury began at once to interview applicants for jobs and by late afternoon had—well, how many negroes willing to chop cotton do you suppose he had? Not one.

The next day was a little more encouraging. Some of Mr. Gilmore's 1,800 able-bodied negro men on the relief rolls showed up, and Miss Choate sent some from the Family Service. When the truck left for Union this morning it had about the full complement of negroes, some of them women, who were going over to chop cotton at 75 cents a day and dinner. They's goin' to be some achin' backs and some blistered hands tonight.

If it were within the power of The News to order the affairs of individuals, these willing 35 or so cotton choppers would immediately be given jobs to their precise liking at much higher than 75 cents a day. A couple of thousand others, however, would be shown a great field overrun with tough grass, given hoes and told that it was chop or starve.

North Carolina

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

GREENSBORO, N. C.
NEWS

JUN 11 193

LOOK SOUTHWARD.

As Mr. Moffett, all pepped up and r'arin' to go, assumes the post of housing administrator and launches into the duties assigned him, it is sincerely trusted that he, along with other standard - of - living - raisers, will give heed to a voice crying in the south and not lend his ears entirely to massed cries of urban needs as voiced by reformers and publicists who have rarely, if ever, looked upon negro settlements and tenant hovels below the Mason and Dixon line.

Suggestion is humbly made that Mr. Moffitt and others similiarly placed peruse certain farm housing surveys which were made in representative southern counties during the CWA investiture in facts and figures. The findings in North Carolina's own Duplin county, since they happen to be handy, are cited as a sample.

Out of 2,311 farm houses investigated only 25 had baths, tubs or showers and the same number running water; 42 had lawns; only 68 were power customers; 1,600 were of unpainted, frame construction; the great majority were in need of screens, paint inside and out, interior walls and ceilings. Investigators found that practically all of them should have repairs or alterations to roofs, foundations, chimneys, floors and walls. In answer to the hypothetical question, "If $500 were available for you to spend in improving your home how would you spend it?" seven out of 10 mentioned interior walls, ceilings and floors. That they must even be educated up to sanitation was indicated by the fact that only 34 per cent mentioned sanitary facilities in this connection.

If it is a challenge that Mr. Moffett, the housing administration or any other Washington social agency is looking for, that great stretch of territory south of the Potomac beckons, although the uplifters are warned in advance that housing conditions cannot be tackled alone; they are but part of the prevailing system.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934 Ohio

YOUNGSTOWN, O.
TELEGRAM

OCT 6 1934

HOUSING CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Door-To-Door Canvass Will Start Within Two Weeks, Is Word

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

H. L. Volgenau, U. S. Expert Talks To 60 Who Attend Meeting

Leaders of the Youngstown Federal Housing campaign were pressing on to the second step in the campaign today, launching of a city-wide canvass of property owners to inspire home renovation.

"You have been designed and drafted to help a worthy cause and to help yourself," J. Fearnley Bonnell, campaign chairman, told members of the general campaign committee of 90 at a meeting yesterday in the Ohio Edison auditorium.

"The building industry has been in the depths, but if given an impetus it will gather strength like a snowball rolling down hill," he said. "This is at least one of the projects of the government which we can all support.

A Trickle, Then A Roar

"England has made wonderful strides in reviving the building industry. If this campaign goes as I believe it will, it will be an aid to all and mean a circulation of money in business which at first may be only a trickle, but will grow to a roar."

H. L. Volgenau, assistant director of the Federal Housing Administration for northern Ohio, explained the purpose of the campaign.

The better housing program, he said, is not a New Deal program. The legislation was suggested and pushed thru congress by industry and now industry is asked to make it work.

Loans Guaranteed

"The financial institutions of the country have been loaded with money for which they had no profitable use. I believe this has been true in Youngstown," Mr. Volgenau said.

The home modernization credit plan, set up by the government as its first step under the housing act, makes it possible for any financial institution to make loans safely and profitably, he said.

The FHA, he explained, guarantees the institution against loss up to 20 per cent of its home modernization loan total and, if the institution becomes distressed, will loan it up to 100 per cent of the loan total.

First Step—Organize

Property owners can borrow from $100 to $2,000, repaying the money in monthly installments a maximum period of five years, he said. The maximum charge for the money, he said, is $5 per $100 for one year.

"This will provide the building industry and every property owner auditorium, Friday night, Congressman John G. Cooper, speaker; rally for Negro voters, Friday night, Oscar DePriest, Chicago congressman, speaker.

Senator Simeon D. Fess will speak at a mass meeting in South high school auditorium on Thursday, Oct. 18, and Clarence J. Brown, candidate for governor, on Tuesday, Oct. 23.

Republican forces in Campbell have been organized for one of the most intensive campaigns in years, County Chairman Bishop said. Councilman H. L. Parrish has been chosen chairman of the Campbell campaign committee; George Kukula, vice chairman; Arthur Anglin, secretary; John Klinko, treasurer, and Frank DiTammaso, publicity chairman.

The committeemen from Campbell organized this week electing Squire Paul C. Puncec, chairman; Darris Coles, vice chairman, and John Barlett, secretary. John Ropar, William Glass, James D. Masi, Nathanel Patton, John D. Marl and Adel Coger were named on the Campbell campaign committee. Headquarters are to be opened in campbell next week.

J. N. Price was re-elected ward chairman at a meeting of Sixth ward committeemen last night at the Dunning-Crum auditorium, W. Indianola. G. S. Williams is vice chairman; Mrs. Mary Samuel, secretary treasurer. They pledged loyalty to the present campaign committee and agreed to co-operate in campaign plans for meetings in the ward.

The Republican Women's club will sponsor a card party Monday night at the Y. M. C. A. to which the public is invited. Candidates will be present and introduced. A lunch will be served. Five hundred and bridge will be played.

Attorney George M. Cravener, chairman of the eventh ward committeemen, today appointed Henry C. Church, John Walko, Emily Young and Mitchell Williams as a ward campaign committee. It was decided at a meeting last night that a poll of the Seventh ward will be made and that a series of ward rallies will be arranged.

John J. Calvin was elected chairman of the First ward committeemen at a meeting held last night at campaign headquarters, 115 Market. Other officers are: George M. Cannon, vice chairman; Mildred Stillson, secretary, and Aaron Marks, treasurer.

* * *

Thad Rose of Canfield, member of the board of elections, presided at a meeting last night of Boardman and Canfield twp. committeemen, held in the Boardman high school. Campaign plans were discussed.

* * *

A meeting of the county campaign speakers' committee has been called for 4:15 p. m. Monday at campaign headquarters, by Joseph F. Williams, chairman.

* * *

The Slovak Republican association was organized at a meeting last night held in Republican headquarters. A. M. Palkovic was elected chairman. Other officers are: A. J. Smigovsky, secretary John Walko, treasurer; Andrew Layshock, Steelton chairman; John Walko, Lansingville chairman; John Leshnock, Haselton chairman; Peter J. Bobby, Struthers chairman, and A. J. Patrick, Youngstown chairman.

Oklahoma.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1934

Oklahoma City, Okla.
TIMES

MAR 17 1934

An Injustice to the Negroes

Conditions in the segregated area populated by Negroes in the eastern part of the city, as revealed by Roy Mullenix, statistician for the city planning commission, are unwholesome, and amount to an injustice to the Negroes. He found as many as two or three houses on a single lot, and as many as eight families living on a lot. Some of the houses are dilapidated shacks, and the congestion is bound to be a handicap to the wellbeing and progress of the race. Such crowded and slum-like conditions are damaging to the city as a whole. This is a social problem as well as a housing problem, and the city should not tolerate it longer than is absolutely necessary.

Undoubtedly there is a majority opinion here in favor of the segregation of the Negro population, and the extent of racial prejudice in this country probably makes that the best arrangement for the Negroes themselves, despite considerable opposition to that plan. But a policy of segregation is no excuse for such crowding, particularly in a state and city where there still is ample room for growth. It is the policy of all American cities to get rid of slums as rapidly as possible. America will have a housing problem until the entire population has wholesome quarters. But this congestion of the Negro district in this city is a depressing phase of that problem. The city authorities should find some means of providing room for expanding the Negro district. There is no doubt that such crowding, and the natural desire to get out of it, have an irritating bearing on the race problem. It will be cheaper to provide the room for expansion now than to hold the Negro population to that teeming section until the struggle for an outlet leads to strife and violence.

Lifting The Lid From Federal Relief

Never before in the history of our experience has a point we sought to make been so clearly defined and focal than during the course of an address we delivered last week before the federal relief workers. Black Dispatch

The major point we sought to make was that the fundamental policy and program for Negroes should be worked out with Negroes not on relief or holding jobs in relief work. 8-25-34

We suggested that relief work among black folks, and the plans adopted for doing this work, should be formulated with and among the more substantial and self-sustained members of the colored race, because the general inclination of the relief worker would be to see his job rather than the problem of the Negro. Oklahoma

We were careful to point out that this inclination is not incident to race; it would follow under any circumstance, whenever a conference setup embraced a situation where a job holder was put to the task of demanding advanced rights from his employer, which might be characterized as radical. There is too much danger in such a situation for the job holder.

Federal relief work has suffered in Oklahoma because of this type of approach to the Negro question, and in our enumeration of facts and incidents coming to our attention we mentioned Okfuskee county. We stated that a terrible condition of want had been pointed out down there.

At the close of the address we answered questions. A colored woman, who is a relief worker in Okfuskee county immediately arose and asked us to restate what had been said about Okfuskee county. We did.

"I just want to state that the federal relief in our county has been all that it could possibly have been," she declared. "Every dollar that could possibly be spent on the Negro has been spent. I cannot see how any such reports could have gotten out." The worker made an extended statement which carried with it the general opinion that Negroes in Okfuskee county had been well cared for along all relief fronts.

We want you to turn to page three and read our address. When you have concluded it you will observe that we made a comprehensive survey of every phase of relief work, and when you have finished this statement you will realize that this relief worker proved our point that Negroes cannot afford to depend upon them for adequate appraisal of what we need.

For instance, we asked this relief worker whether she knew the farmer who owned a filling station on the highway immediately west of Boley. We called her attention to the fact that this man, with other farmers, had been to the Black Dispatch office, and we had spent much time attempting to secure federal loans on their farms—loans which we never secured. We told her of the letters we had received telling of want and suffering.

At the conclusion of what we had to say, a white worker, seated to our right, asked this question:

"How can we help people who have had no projects worked out for them? What should we do when we know they are suffering?"

The important think for you to know is that this white worker is also from Okfuskee county. She stated that the two poorest districts in the county, and where there was actual need, were in Negro districts, and she stated that she had even been to her director attempting to find out some method by which FERA projects could be initiated.

Do you get this picture? Here is a Negro woman who openly states that in her county everything has been done in the way of federal relief. Contrast this with the fact that Negroes cannot get federal loans on their farms; that there lies in front of me a letter telling of want and destitution, and that a white worker in the same meeting where the Negro relief worker sat, says that in two large Negro districts of Okfuskee county no one has had the courage or vision to work out and place before the relief board a project which the government could approve.

On the 31st of this month this writer has been asked to speak again before the relief workers. On this occasion we desire to render a service for the Negroes of Oklahoma. We believe the facts reviewed here will clearly indicate what is wrong with the federal relief setup for Negroes in Oklahoma. If you have been denied those things to which you are justly entitled, we wish you would sit down now and write direct to this office. Do not indulge in rumor and hearsay, but tell the truth and the facts. Our reaction from the meeting we had with the relief workers last week is that much good can be done in presenting the bald facts. Certain it is that the fallacy of the present setup was fully exposed in the attitude of the Negro relief worker from Okfuskee county.

Will The Planning Board Be Fair?

Black Dispatch

Dr. Frank August did a fine service for the community when he released to the city manager and the daily papers his survey covering housing conditions in Oklahoma City. It might be said that Dr. August's effort is the first sympathetic attempt to arrive at truth in Oklahoma City's vexatious problems resulting from residential segregation.

Since the release of this very illuminating report citizens have been regaled almost daily with newspaper statements to the effect that the City Planning Board has in mind a secret outlet, where an addition will be developed for Negroes. Monday's papers quoted a Planning Board authority as saying the location would be one pleasing to white people.

1-2-6-34

It appears to the Black Dispatch that if there is a plan on foot to develop a new addition for Negroes somewhere in the environs of the city, the first persons to be advised as to this location should be Negroes. Why the secrecy, and why the thought that the only consideration in the matter shall be the whim and caprice of white folk?

If Negroes are citizens of Oklahoma City, protected by the guarantees of the constitution of the United States, they are certainly entitled to some freedom of thought on this subject. There are a number of questions involved in an expansion problem in which no one but Negroes could possibly be concerned.

Oklahoma City Paper

Take, for instance, our major schools and churches, our public library, community house and business area. Thousands of dollars have been invested by Negroes in the physical buildings on such property. Homes have been secured and maintained for years because of their proximity to schools and churches. Negroes who locate in Oklahoma City in the future will be interested in the same question. Their decision to come to Oklahoma City or go some other place will be largely governed by the relationship their home will sustain to schools, churches, amusement houses and the Negro business district.

On the other hand, the thrifty Negroes in this community, who have invested their money in business, have a right to know about future development and its attendant effect upon the growth of their business ventures. It will not help this entrenched capital for some calloused city government to arbitrarily plan population development far away from their commercial effort. We wonder if the Planning Board has thought of this? Measuring our development problem with this yard stick of reason, it can easily be seen that Negroes are entitled to, and should have a voice in the determination of such questions.

In reaching their conclusions about new territory and a new outlet for Negroes, the members of the Planning Board must face one ridiculous phase of segregation which has always been amusing. Regardless of how you segregate there must be a line somewhere between the blacks and the whites. Taking the white man's viewpoint, and assuming that whites who live at the point of black contact are socially and economically injured, we can realize the problem of the Planning Board. They must at each session, sit down to discuss this impossible question: "Where can we locate Negroes so that no white man will be injured.

Naturally, when one starts from a false premise he will reach an improper conclusion. One can never make much progress towards the north if he starts west, and keeps going west. If white people sit down somewhere and decide that they do not care to raise their Machine-Gun Kellys and their Phil Kennamers near Negroes, because of the notion that all white folk are socially more desirable and advanced in culture, refinement and morals than all Negroes, such untenable logic forces the enforcers of segregation in a nine-hole on the question of the dividing line between whites and blacks. It takes the wisdom of Solomon to at one time recognize the Negro's citizenship and enforce segregation without hurting any white folk.

Who are the white folk who must live in the residential breastworks, forming the line between whites and blacks in Oklahoma City? Is one white man better than another? Since white folk argue that all Negroes are the same, and there are no social distinctions made, in the approach to segregation problems, he is forced to the same line of reasoning towards his own people. Since no Negro's right is greater than another, likewise no white man's right is greater than another.

We have followed this crazy line of reasoning in order to expose the utter fallacy of segregation argument. This type of social outlook forces white planning boards to commit the unseemly acts noted from time to time in official records. They meet to locate Negroes in a spot desirable to all white people. They end up shocked to discover that some white person lives on the line which marks the banned territory, where white folks secure their cooks, washerwomen and maids. The segregationist never realizes that unless you move Negroes above the earth and below terra firma, his ideal Utopia can never be realized.

As we said at the outset, Negroes have the right to be consulted regarding any radical, changing trend in population development. The Planning Board is vested with great power and authority in the physical movement of our city's population. Here's hoping that they will not arbitrarily attempt a program which does not have in mind the already established business area and our other public structure, into which we have poured thousands of dollars during the past forty years.

Social Conditions, Improvement of-1934

Mullings, S. C., Enterprise
March 8, 1934

MORE HARM THAN GOOD

Northern societies for the promotion of the welfare of the Southern Negro are more often promoting his ill than good. These socieies are often grossly ignorant of conditions surrounding the negroes in the South and are incompetent to sit in judgment and do what they might otherwise be honest in trying to do. But too often there is at the bottom of this and that movement the spirit of hate. This makes one unfitted for championship work for anyone? We are honest and in earnest when we say that we believe the efforts of some "welfare" organization to aid the negroes tried in Alabama some time ago for criminal assault were harmful to the cause of the negroes being tried, not that we would even intimate that the courts did wrong in any sense, but that what sympathy the accused might have received was made less likely by the antics of the imported lawyer and the wholesale accusations coming from the "welfare" societies.

Southern people are more competent to give the negro justice than are foreigners. They may not make as many professions of friendship but show by deeds that their friendship is not a hollow sound and a tinkling cymbal.—Messenger.

Camden, S. C. Chronicle
April 13, 1934

Hot School Lunches Are Served In State

The goal set by cooperating agencies for the establishment of a hot dish in the school in one or more schools in every county in the state has been achieved almost 100 per cent—only two counties having failed, viz: Berkeley and Chester.

For years health authorities have said that a large per cent of our children in America were malnourished. At the White House Conference on Child Care and Protection, November 1930, one of the committees reported that out of 45,000,000 children 6,000,000 are improperly nourished.

On October 4, 1933 Mr. Harry Hopkins, Federal Relief Administrator said, "The figures from one industrial state show that between the school years of 1931 and 1932 the number of children suffering from malnutrition increased from 15 to 25 percent."

For years, work has been done on hot school lunches by several different agencies in South Carolina both singly and cooperatively. The 1933 reports showed the best work to that date particularly the home demonstration clubs, parent teachers associations, and the relief administration.

When the State Plan for Adjusting Farm Home Living was presented at the district meetings of home demonstration agents in Columbia, July 1933, the state extension nutritionist presented the goal and plan for state-wide organization of hot dish in school lunches in the rural schools.

In October 1933 Mr. Hopkins authorized the State Emergency Relief Administrators to institute a program of child feeding in the schools for the children of families on relief lists who were attending school where examination indicated malnutrition.

Total number of counties serving hot dish, 44; (this includes all but Berkeley and Chester) total number of white schools serving hot dish, 543; total number of negro schools serving hot dish, 289; total number of schools serving hot dish, 832; total number of white children receiving hot dish, 34,587; total number of negro children receiving hot dish, 30,020; total number of children receiving hot dish, 64,607; average number of months lunch has been served, 2 1-2.

Agencies cooperating were: Home Demonstration Organization, Parent Teachers Association, School Improvement Association, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Home Economic and other teachers, School Boards, County Health Department American Legion Auxiliary, bakeries individuals.

Cooperation has been varied according to local county plans and conditions.

The relief administration has furnished government commodities, as eggs, cheese, butter, meat, fruit cereal products, bread, canned vegetables and meat from relief canneries, paid worker for preparation and service of school lunch; and $1.00 per hundred enrollment for children on relief.

The homes and women's clubs have furnished foods especially milk, chicken, fresh, canned, dried and stored vegetables; equipment as stoves, boilers, bowls, cups, spoons, pans and towels. In many instances club women have prepared the hot foods where no paid worker was available.

Charlotte, N. C., Times
February 8, 1934

NEGROES GET EQU. SHOWING IN NORTH CAROLINA

In an address before the ninth annual public welfare institute for negro social workers Governor Ehringhaus said that negroes in North Carolina are given equal opportunity with others in the federal works projects being carried on in the state. Mrs. Thomas O'Berry, state director of the CWA, said that the federal government had shown especial consideration in awarding funds for the erection of negro schools.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
OBSERVER

JUN 17 1934

SOLOMON WILKES.

He was only an old negro man, yet, yesterday morning when information came that he had been found dead in bed, it was as the casting of a cloud of sorrow over The Observer office, which institution SOLOMON had served as janitor for about 22 years, day in and day out, and with remarkable fidelity. It was only once every Summer that SOLOMON was found absent from his post of duty, and it was then that he had gone to the old home in Chester, S. C., as he always explained, "to see my white folks." Chief among these was MRS. D. N. CARTER, whose home was the object of SOLOMON's pilgrimage. She died several years ago, but SOLOMON'S annual pilgrimage was continued, to see her grave and to keep in touch with the new generation. Why was SOLOMON so faithful to the memory of MRS. CARTER? It was because she "raised" him. In the bold penmanship of the old-time Southern lady, MRS. CARTER, on the occasion of SOLOMON'S visit back in 1921, wrote the editor of The Observer something of his youthful career and character.

The letter was forwarded to the editor "in behalf of a faithful servant, one SOLOMON WILKES. His mother hired him when quite young, at the age of six, to me, and he remained with me until he was 21 years of age. He was smart, obedient and faithful in every respect. I grew two acres of cotton and SOLOMON cultivated it, besides attending to household duties. He could do anything about the house such as make beds, churn, and tend the children. In short, he turned his hand to anything that had to be done."

And, as janitor of The Observer office, SOLOMON manifested the same capabilities—he turned his hand to everything that had to be done. He was noted for promptness and honesty. One could set his watch by SOLOMON'S appearance at any particular duty. He never ceased to growl when the NRA cut down his working hours, and nobody reproved when he was caught slyly putting in some extra licks. He was one of the fading types of what we might term the old-time Southern negro gentleman, for black that he was, he deserved the title of gentleman. We are not paying him too strong a tribute at that. And a memory that will linger with us is the pleasure it gave to press his honest black hand as we left the office on the evening of his last working day, interrupting his task of window cleaning to do so. The Sweet Chariot never swooped down to pick up a finer type of the negro race, than when it dropped and carried SOLOMON WILKES away.

CHARLESTON, S. C.
NEWS
SEP 30 1934

Another Family or Two

What Mr. Harry Hopkins, director of relief, means when he names South Carolina as one of fourteen states not carrying their part of the "relief" load is that when you, Reader of this paragraph, see (as a reporter of The News and Courier saw at 7 a. m. not long ago in Greenville) 200 persons, most of them colored, assembled before a door in the street seeking employment, you have got to find jobs for them or go to work to support them and their families.

This you have been doing and are doing now, though you don't seem to know it, but Mr. Hopkins means that he is going to bring it home to you when your legislature meets in January.

He means that unless your legislature levies taxes upon you for three or four millions of dollars the federal government will not send a million dollars a month or more to South Carolina for "relief". He thinks you are now getting too much. He says so.

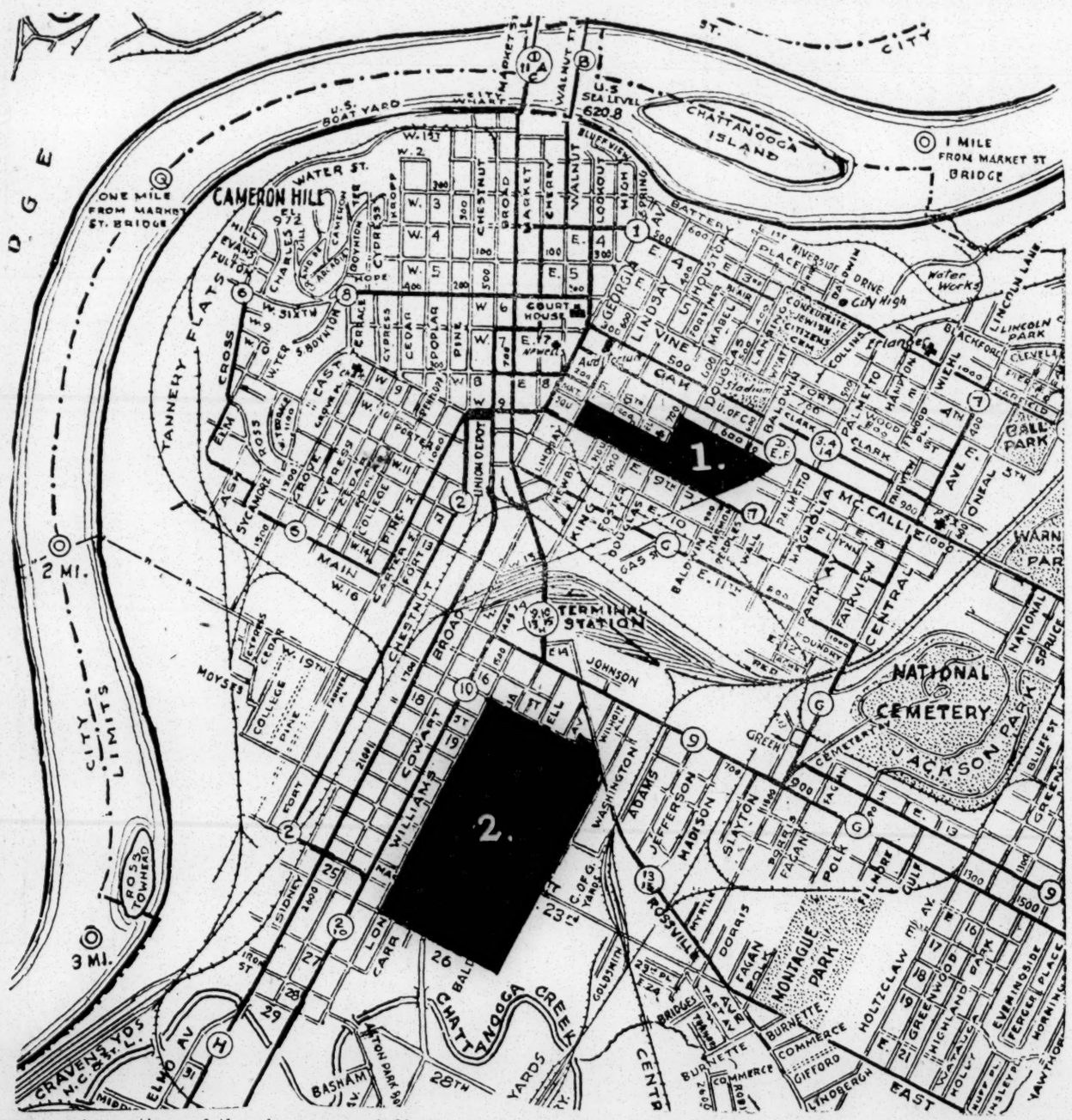
So, old Reader, you that pay your taxes and still have a little something left, you who have a job on your farm or in your shop, you had better brace yourself to go down into your pockets for more.

The federal government, President Roosevelt, speaking through Harry Hopkins, means that in addition to yourself and your family you have got to help support another family or two in future.

Tennessee

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

Map Showing Housing Projects



Blacked-in portions of the above map of Chattanooga show the exact locations of the two slum-clearance projects approved by a representative committee and which will be presented to Washington as the choice of Chattanooga's housing projects. The section numbered "1" is for colored and was proposed by R. H. Hunt & Co., architects. That numbered "2" is for white people and was proposed by MZL Fuller and drawn up by Louis H. Bull, architect. No. 1 is near Fort Wook, No. 2 in South Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Tenn. Times
July 8, 1934

MAY URGE PLAN TO SPREAD OUT

NEGRO PROJECT to Palmetto Street.

TO STUDY MATTER FIRST

Ben Hunt Would Push Housing Zone Already Proposed On

Tour of Two Sections Set Out by Council Shows Conditions of Ugly Squalor.

R. H. Hunt company considers proposing an extension of the Chattanooga housing council's colored project beyond the Southern railway tracks to Palmetto street, ~~making~~ possible creation of a larger park which the architects think will be more adequate to the needs of Negroes in the central section of the city.

A study of the feasibility of this extension will be made by the firm of architects this week and it was indicated yesterday that if the larger area appears preferable the company will use it as the basis for new plans which it will draw up for submission to the government.

Ben F. Hunt, a member of the firm, pointed out that a very small, unequipped playground at the colored school at East Tenth and Peeples streets is the only recreational facility for Negroes in the midtown section.

Action should be started at once to get a housing survey of Chattanooga showing housing conditions here in a comprehensive manner, Mr. Hunt said. This part of the work, he said, need not await any further developments, since it is essential to any housing project.

Mr. Hunt said he felt sure the survey could be made on T. E. R. A. funds, as he suggested at the most recent meeting of the housing council; it would, he believed, require about thirty days' work, and he said his firm has all the data necessary to plan the project.

From National Council.

The data referred to by Mr. Hunt are from the national housing council, a nonprofit organization of architects, builders, sociologists and others, which has offices in the department of the interior building in Washington. The R. H. Hunt company is a member of the national housing council and therefore has the information compiled by the council to guide survey work.

P. H. Wood, president of the Engineers' club and chairman of the subcommittee on sites of the Chattanooga Housing council, said yesterday that he looked at the two recommended projects from different angles.

He said he considered the white project in South Chattanooga primarily a low-cost housing plan and the colored project, in the Ninth street area, primarily a slum clearance plan. Comparison of the two tracts shows that slum conditions are much worse in the colored section, he said.

Entirely different conditions and possibilities are presented by the two projects, a reporter found when he went over the ground yesterday, guided by Mr Wood over the white project and by Mr Hunt over the colored.

The colored area, much smaller in extent than the white, is greatly congested, while the white section is a ragged patchwork of residential sections dotted among fields, gullies, junkheaps and thickly vegetated swamps.

The tour of the colored project started at the rear of the market house, where it proceeds east on an imaginary line south of Eighth street. There is no street or sidewalk on this imaginary line and from Eighth, looking downward at it, the dingy and dirty section is in diametric contrast to the first-class section from which it is viewed.

Mr. Hunt selected as a typical part of the colored tract a small group of buildings on Douglas st. set surrounding an alley which he said was Flinn. Here and in the surrounding land as far as the eye can see, the houses are ranged in a congested jumble that suggests the fantastic possibility they might have been dropped from some huge airplane helter-skelter over the landscape, without rhyme or reason or regard for human health.

Not Nice to Look At.

Mr. Hunt led the way up the muddy alley between two rows of paintless, ramshackle houses without doors, or with doors open, and lacking screens. On one dirty front porch a long-legged little yellow girl with no sort of amusement in her wide eyes was playing absently. From the front porch of the adjacent house stairways, horizontal to the front wall, ran up on either side in a "v" to the second story. To the right of the alley-way was another two-story house, gaping. In the five or six houses on either side of the alley the little girl was the only sign of animation or occupancy.

Further along, the alley-way gave into a poor yard where by some oversight no houses had been built. From almost every direction the backs of houses faced it. On the muddy yard stood three or four privies built of patchwork lumber, sprawled out unsubstantial and tilting, their doors mooning open, a housing project of the first order for buzzing green flies. Inside were seatless commodes attached to the sewer system, and accessories that were unattached. From every part of the courtyard the odor assaulted the senses.

From the second-story back porch of one of the houses a colored woman heaved a large panful of slop into the alley, where it stood in a still puddle. That is said to be the accepted way of disposing of dirty water. To one side of the courtyard stood a tottering brick chimney, the last remains of a house that had burned down.

Thence the tour proceeded—with a speed far from slackened by the possibility that more slop remained to be disposed of—into Ninth street. Along the short way to Ninth nearly all the houses that could be seen were two or three feet or less apart—a house facing another house, or standing at the back or side of another house, and all so close together that it would be easy to go from one to another with a single step.

There, little or no effort seemingly had been made by the occupants to have the conditions of their tenancy a bit more livable. House fronts and porches were barren, squalid, gray with the beat of long rain on lumber. A few of the houses, which could be classified as the better variety for the neighborhood, were the exception.

Somewhat Better.

On into Ninth, and as the tour pro-

ceeded evidences of beautification could be seen—rather pitiful evidences, in most cases, but still indicative that the occupants could appreciate better things if they could get them. On one front porch was a small yellow tank, similar in design to the ones gasoline comes in, but smaller, which had been partly cut out to admit a flower bed from which green tendrils grew thickly.

Around other fringes of the project on the return trip toward Market square were other flower boxes, some houses with vines creeping up the porches, and a larger number of substantial-looking and not unsightly houses. Jumbled up among them was a brick apartment with a runway of shackly looking boards leading to the street, and with two tiers of wooden porches at the rear on which several washings were hung. Near the market house were several outdoor toilets, apparently of the same order as those in the courtyard off Douglas street.

The South Chattanooga section, where the housing council proposes a white project, is, in comparison, the great open spaces. In the colored sectic there are rises and drops in elevation, tracts of lower land, but the South Chattanooga area offers an almost continuous series of comparatively sharp changes from high ground (an elevation of forty-five feet, the same as the elevation of Market street) and swampy pits.

Numbers of houses there in the low ground are on brick stilts, some of the stilts as high as six feet, so that a man could walk under the building without bending his head. Under one unpre-possessing house an automobile was parked.

In the settlements on this property the houses are very close together, and in many places white families and Negro families live side by side, the proximity of the almost-touching houses affording scant privacy, members of the two races sitting out on their adjoining porches.

Along Long street, the western boundary of the project, the houses are not so bad, bearing traces of old paint, and some of them are really quite good. Bordering it is the Third District school and a few blocks away are Whiteside street and industrial plants. There are a good many trees on Long street which could be used to advantage as decorations for better homes.

Defacing Dumping Grounds.

Farther along flats are passed, very low and used partly as dumping grounds. In fact, dumping grounds come to appear a customary feature of the landscape, defacing stretches here and there with tin cans and battered parts of old automobiles, and skeletons of cars.

Near the colored church are houses of a better type. We turn the corner into Twenty-sixth street. Here are a few gardens, mostly consisting of corn, large enough gardens to serve a family. These gardens also stand out as a distinguishing feature of the section, along with the dumping grounds, as the tour progresses.

The people of this section suggest no such misery of living as do those in the Ninth street colored area. In the South Chattanooga tract there is at least room to breathe and to plant a few vegetables and to have the coolness of a tree or two.

A little farther on is a filled-in park space to about the Market street level. The road passing it is about ten feet lower than the artificial elevation.

"That is an example," Mr. Wood commented, "of how cheaply fills can be done. This low ground could be used to provide a sunken playground back of every home."

We turn left into Market street and continue north to an imaginary point where the boundary of the project comes to an intersection near Chattanooga creek. Along this way are many open spaces that it has been suggested should be transformed into parks. The view is almost sweeping, so few are the houses in this particular part; over a large space truck gardens are scattered, in good soil.

A characteristic of this entire section is that the elevations are very choppy. Here it is high ground, there it is low, with dense bulrushes and other lush vegetation. A group of one-story brick houses, every one like every other, stands like a row of ill-uniformed soldiers. But most of these houses have vines on the porches and gardens back of them. They border the street on both sides, the patterns of three or four types, but every individual group of its own pattern. At a guess, Mr. Wood said these houses would be occupied by a class of Negroes engaged in foundries.

From here the tour goes into Twenty-third street, then north into Washington. (It is to be hoped these street names are correct, but throughout the inspection of both projects only one street sign was encountered and the location was often an open question.) Several of the houses here are deserted, some of them large ones with the windows broken out jaggedly, a few odd pieces of glass left in sharp angles, the red of the bricks broken into several shades by long exposure. A big area, unfit for anything except a park, appears; swampy lots, weeds, desolation. On its edge is a privy fairly covered with tin advertising signs. On both sides of the street are gullies, and in the gully at the right is a dumping ground for worthless automobile parts.

To the left, Market street can be seen, and the floors of most of the intervening houses are beneath its level. On the back porch of one house are yellow cans and a string of washing.

In a sort of field a horse and a cow, both scrub, are grazing. From an abandoned house, perched on six-foot brick stilts, much of the weather-boarding has been torn for firewood. From another house the roof has been partly burned, and the building stands in crippled futility. There is a row of colored houses, and though the buildings are not very good, their occupants have planted hedges in front, which are fairly well tended.

Near Rossville avenue is another dump for old automobiles. Intersecting the street along which we are traveling is a street running east and west, and along its sagging way water stands in small puddles; the houses on its sides are dilapidated and their roofs are broken out in an eczema of ruin.

But back of the houses are gardens and tall yellow sunflowers bowing on their graceful stems.

We turn into Rossville avenue, then into Seventeenth street, where there is a low order of white property. Again it is black-and-tan. Thence into Mitchell avenue, a good residential street, from where the houses on the adjacent low ground are hidden up to the windows.

Memphis, Tenn., Scimitar
September 25, 1934

NEGRO LEAGUE TO HELP FUND

Organization Will Conduct Community Drive For Own Division

The Community Welfare League, negro organization of which William H. Foote is president, will conduct the Community Fund drive for the negro division, Ed F. Barry, president of the fund, announced today.

While negro employes will be solicited by the employes' division of Kiwanians, headed by J. J. Brennan, the general solicitation among negroes will be in charge of the Welfare League, under the supervision of Community Fund officials. It will be held during the 1935 campaign, beginning Nov. 5.

Other officers of the league are L. J. Searcy, executive secretary, and W. M. Bonner, treasurer. The league volunteered its services.

Turn In Budgets

Eleven of the 18 participating agencies of the fund have turned in their tentative budgets, and it is expected that all will be in by tomorrow, and the fund goal will be set shortly thereafter by Bert Bates, general campaign chairman, and his co-workers. John E. Roberts is chairman of the budget committee.

Campaign workers this year must put over two ideas, in the opinion of Jessee Dean, executive secretary.

"We must educate the people to the fact that the government is not doing the whole job of taking care of the needy, and we must emphasize increased subscriptions," Mr. Dean said.

500 Families Needy

"The Family Welfare Agency is taking care of families where there are no employable people—and there are 500 such families in Memphis.

"These are families where the head of the household is incapacitated because of illness or some phyiscal disability or is dead, or has deserted his family. The government agencies are taking care of the unemployment problem exclusively—or rather, employable people and their families."

As for increased subscriptions, Mr. Dean points to the fact that Memphis, a city of 263,000, raised only $242,000 for Community Fund purposes last year, while New Haven, Conn., a city of 200,000, raised $851,000; Wilkes-Barre, Pa., with 227,000, set a goal of $540,000 and actually raised $548,000, and Scranton, Pa., with 166,000 population, raised $642,000.

Comparisons

"Just compare statistics of Scranton with those of Memphis and see how we are shown up by Community Fund campaign results," Mr. Dean suggests. "In Scranton, there are 2526 persons worth five to fifty thousand dollars, while Memphis has 6272 such persons; Scranton has 983 citizens worth over $50,000, while Memphis has 1991 worth that, and Scranton has 270 persons worth $100,000 or over, while Memphis has 660 persons worth that."

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1934

Tennessee

ERADICATION OF NEGRO "SLUMS" DEMANDED

Enforcement of Jim Crow Laws Also Brings Attack

Commercial Appeal

Demands for eradication of the slum conditions under which some negroes have to live in Memphis and other southern cities and an attack on the way the Jim Crow laws are enforced were made at the inter-racial session of the Goodwill Conference at the Nineteenth Century Club yesterday morning.

The Rev. Harold G. Cooke, pastor of Highland Heights Methodist Church, who declared he had gone through the terrible race riot in Tulsa a few years ago, chided the conference for dealing in generalities.

6-7-34

Wants Something Done

"The basis for goodwill depends on doing something about particular things," he said. "Complimenting our colored brethren about their singing isn't going to lead to goodwill. What they want is elemental justice," he shouted.

"I'd like every man and woman in this roo mto drive in his automobile through the slum districts that the negroes live in all the time. They wouldn't be tolerated one instant for even the poorest class of whites.

Mr. Cooke's remarks electrified the audience, which was almost evenly divided between white and black, so the Rev. M. Ashby Jones of Atlanta, imported to deliver the principal speech of the morning, and Rabbi Harry Ettelson, immediately began to pour oil on the waters. Both pleaded for laying the groundwork of human understanding before starting out on controversial matters.

Asks Slum Clearance

Meanwhile, President Frank Sweeney of LeMoyne College had previously urged clearance of negro slums as the most immediate inter-racial objective, and asked that some permanent organization to work on this problem and to meet weekly to discuss local inter-racial problems be established.

The Rev. Robert A. George appointed Prof. Sweeney, the Rev. John C. Petrie and Father E. M. Wright of Emmanuel Episcopal Church for negroes, on a committee to revive the old Memphis Inter-racial League.

The formal papers of the morning session were delivered by Mr. Jones and Rev. T. O. Fuller, Memphis negro clergymen. Both went deeply into the historical background of the American negro problem and race prejudices in general and pointed out the psychological factors to be dealth with.

Rev. J. E. Grant, pastor of the Avery Chapel for negroes, attacking the low pay given negro school teachers in the south, said that the white man was thereby cheating himself.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
May 28, 1934

Certificates Given Nine Negro Mothers

Knox county Red Cross officials yesterday announced that home hygiene certificates had been issued for the following members of aas class educated for Negro mothers by Ova Brooks:

Ola Author, No. 512 East Church street; Evelyn Goodwin, No. 207 Bell street; Annie Harper, No. 1313 Bright street; Mattie Fitzgerald, No. 515 Clinch street; Annie Wortham, No. 331 East Church street; Celia Nichols, No. 804 Waters street, the wife of A. D. Dunnaway, No. 918 East Vine street; Sallie Hughes, No. 1800 Boyd street, and Carrie Howard, No. 705 Lowery street.

The class was conducted under the auspices of the American Woodman Insurance lodge.

Chattanooga, Tenn. Times
July 3, 1934

HUNT PROJECTS GET FAVORABLE NOTICE

Housing Decision Delayed to Await Further Survey.

White Area in Fort Wood, Colored Near Warner Park Proposed for Approval.

Two projects drawn by R. H. Hunt & Co.—the first for whites, in the Fort Wood section; the second for Negroes, in an area adjoining Warner park—stood out yesterday as the likely recommendations of the Chattanooga Housing council.

R. H. Hunt, head of the firm of architects, announced he had selected these two from the five projects drawn up by his organization as meriting first consideration.

N. H. Grady said the Hunt-recommended projects "look to me like the most feasible thing I've heard."

Dr. J. M. Miles, representing the colored population, said project No. 2—for colored—was approved by Chattanooga Negroes.

Dr. James L. Fowle, pastor of the First Presbyterian church and president of the Civitan club, said he was ready to join them in recommending this project, and he proposed that the housing council take immediate action to recommend two projects as requested by the officials at Washington.

Mrs. Z. W. Wheland advised against "going off half-cocked" and at her suggestion the council authorized appointment of a committee of five to investigate all proposed projects and recommend two to the full council at a meeting Thursday afternoon.

E. J. Walsh, chairman of the council, said he would appoint the committee not later than this morning.

Colored Project Approved.

The Hunt colored project designated as No. 2 was the only housing plan for which any member of the housing council declared approval yesterday. R. H. Hunt described his company's five projects and Louis H. Bull, architect, described the white project in South Chattanooga which he has drawn for the Central Realty company.

The matter of making a selection among the projects and backing the choice or choices has been a ticklish one and has been avoided ever since the plans for federal housing first went into a committee's hands here.

First a chamber of commerce committee headed by Paul J. Kruesi got the job. It made no selection, committing itself only in generalities.

The housing was turned over to a chamber of commerce committee headed by E. J. Walsh. The new committee made no selection.

Last month housing was taken out of the chamber on advice from Washington and the Chattanooga Housing council was formed, with Mr. Walsh as chairman.

A steering committee was formed form the general membership of the council and when it met last week Ben F. Hunt, of the firm of architects brought word from Washington that the federal housing officials want two projects recommended: One white and one colored.

Dr. Fowle called for action, and on his insistence yesterday's meeting was called to make the two selections.

After R. H. Hunt and Mr. Bull had been heard, and committee members had discussed various details, and the hour had grown late, Mr. Walsh said he thought the council would have to postpone the decision to another meeting.

"I understood," Dr. Fowle said, "that this meeting was called to make some recommendation to the government. I think if we delay action and go into minute details we'll never get before the government the fact that Chattanooga wants those tracts cleared and we will never get the money. I believe these details will have to be gone into much more minutely than we can do today. It seems that our colored representatives here have come to some degree of unanimity and I for my part am willing to vote with them for Project 2. I think we need action. I think the only thing here to defeat us is to do nothing but to continue these discussions indefinitely—and they could be continued indefinitely.

"I suggest, Mr. chairman, that you at this time receive the opinion of this group as it has arrived at an opinion."

Mrs. Wheland Asks Delay.

Mrs. Wheland then suggested delay till the end of the week to give committee members a chance to see the properties and Mr. Walsh suggested a postponement to Thursday.

Mrs. Margaret Severance supported Dr. Fowle in the proposal that action be taken at once. "Couldn't we," she asked, "decide today the greatest good for the greatest number?"

Miss Zella Armstrong moved the appointment of the committee of five as suggested by Mrs. Wheland and her motion carried the stipulation that the committee should report Thursday.

Of his Project 1—in the Fort Wood section—R. H. Hunt said "In our opinion that is the one spot in Chattanooga that should have consideration in any plan of slum clearance."

"When the government man comes here he will probably say it is not a slum section because it does not compare with the slums of larger and older cities," Mr. Hunt said. "That's true. but for Chattanooga [illegible] a ragged slum section.

Of Project 2 he said "we have not a single residential section for colored people that we can point to with any sort of pride."

Project 2 would involve clearing out the Fifth Street Colored school, which is "obsolete, overcrowded and dangerous," Mr. Hunt said.

Hunt Project 1 starts at Baldwin street, includes half of the block south of Vine from Baldwin to the Southern railway tracks. It contemplates a park and playground between Vine and Fort Wood bordering the railway. It takes in the entire section from Baldwin to Central avenue between Third and Fifth streets, being the north side of Fort Wood hill. The park would be built on the block bounded by Collins street, the railway, Third and Fifth streets. This project involves 220 lots 313 houses to be demolished, twelve houses to be remodeled and 267 residences and apartment units to be built. The section would be graded, new curbs and sidewalks would be constructed and landscaping and planting would be done.

Hunt Project 2 takes in the tract from Warner park on the west of Orchard Knob avenue on the east and from Third street on the north to Vine street on the south. It includes the old county hospital property, which would be converted into a colored social center with an auditorium. A park would be built bordered by Holly, Hickory Vine and Third streets. The property would be laid out and landscaped and new streets would be built. The project involves 394 lots, 158 houses to be razed fifty-two houses to be remodeled and 240 new houses to be built.

Present at yesterday's meeting of the council at the chamber of commerce: Chairman E. J. Walsh, R. H. Hunt, Ben F. Hunt, MZL Fuller, Louis H. Bull, Mrs. Z. W. Wheland, Mrs. Harry Miller, Mrs. W. P. Coolidge, Mrs. S. M. Rose, Mrs. Margaret Severance, Mrs. Joseph W. Johnson, Miss Zella Armstrong, R. P. Pudse, Jr., Arthur V. Snell, A. M. Pennybacker, Commissioner James A. Cash, Lee Head, John Mahoney, Righter Cogswell, P. H. Wood, N. H. Grady, A. B. Adams, Dr. James L. Fowle, Dr. J. D. L. McPheeters, Dr. J. M. Miles, colored, and Dr. P. A. Stephens, colored.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner
July 12, 1934

Interracial Progress Indicated at A. & I.

Annual Session of Tennessee League Is Held

Athletics and dramatics have outstripped the church in recognition of talent that promotes interracial relations in the South and elsewhere, Bishop James A. Bray of the Eighth Episcopal District of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, said this morning at the sixteenth annual meeting of the Tennessee Interracial League at A. & I. State College.

Among those present were: Dr. R. T. Burt, chairman of the executive committee of the International Interracial League, of Clarksville; A. M. Pennybacker, secretary of the Chattanooga Y. M. C. A.; R. A. Kilgore, member of the faculty of the University of Chattanooga; Dr. James L. Powell, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga; Dr. J. A. Keffer, director of the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Bureau; Mrs. Ross Woods of Lewisburg; R. E. Clay, executive secretary of the Interracial League of Tennessee, Bristol; Webster L. Porter, member of the league's executive committee, of Knoxville; Dr. James E. Clark, chairman of the Interracial Commission of Tennessee, and Dr. W. P. King, editor of Christian Advocate.

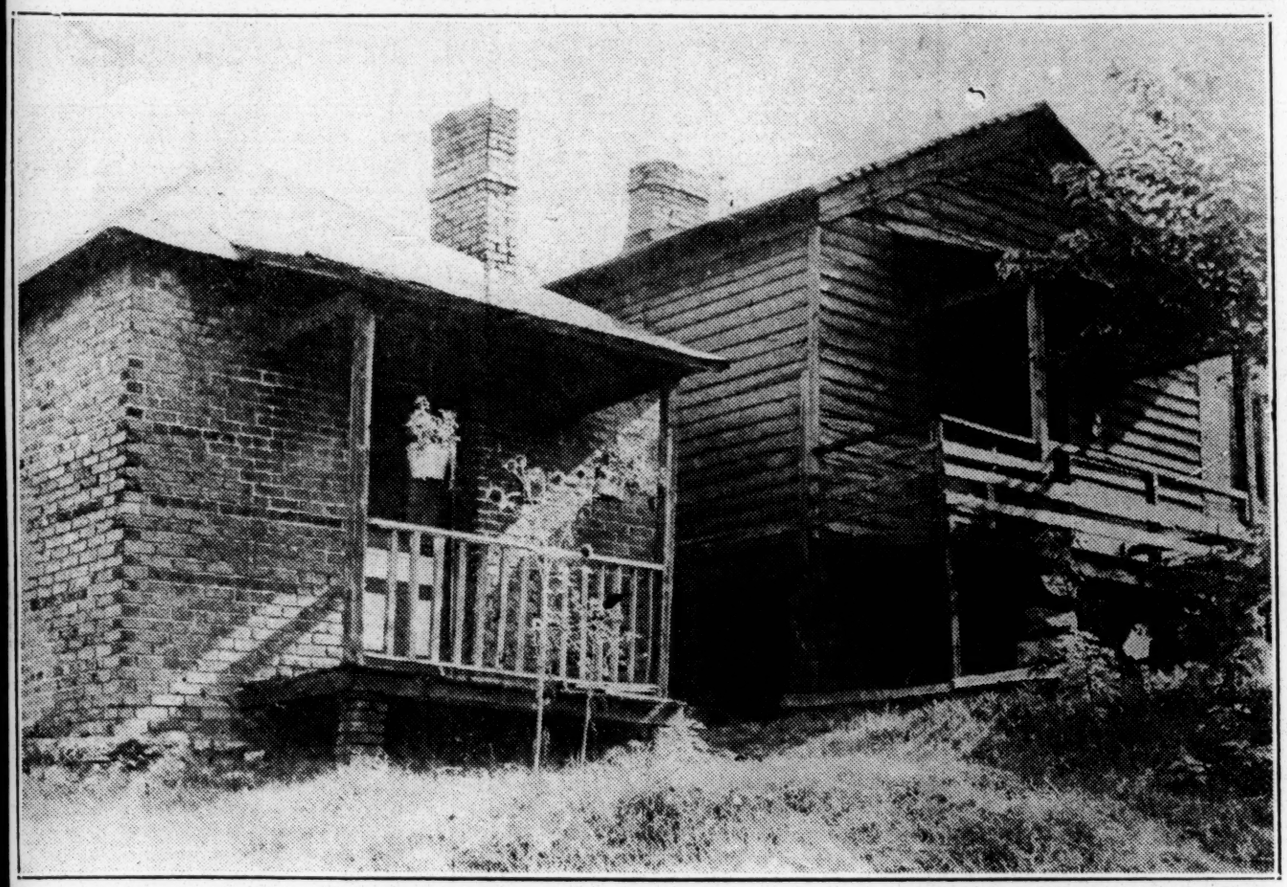
Progress in furthering interracial relations was indicated. Concrete examples of such progress cited included the new building at A. & I. State College.

The question of what place vital religion has in the solution of interracial relations was raised by Dr. Clark, who declared that vital religion of the Good Samaritan kind is the whole place. "Vital religion strikes at that which is the same under the black skin and the white—the heart," he declared.

President W. J. Hale was praised by numerous speakers for his exemplary Christian life. The invocation and the benediction were given at the first session by the Rev. S. L. Howell, pastor of the St. Paul A. M. E. Church. A short address was given by the Rev. S. S. Norris of the A. M. E. Publishing Board.

Chattanooga Tenn. News
September 14, 1934

Federal Government May Demolish These Houses



—Staff Photograph by Keen.

These houses, occupied by Negroes, are typical of the dwellings that will be demolished if the PWA approves an application made by the Chattanooga Housing Council for clearance of slums and new construction in a fourteen-block area in the Grove Street section. E. H. Hoben, representative of the housing division of the PWA, announced he will recommend this project to the division. Mr. Hoben left the city for Lexington, Ky., Wednesday night after a three-day visit here.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1934

Texas.

Alphonse Mills Is Made Local Agent Of U. S. Housing

HOUSTON—Alphonse Mills, one of the most widely known citizens of Houston ,and at present business manager of the Houston Light, local newspaper, has been appointed to take charge of the Negro branch office of the National Housing Committee.

Mr. Mills said that he is opening his office at 415 Milam Street, where he will be glad to give advice and take care of the needs of Houston Negroes, and persons in his zone who desire to remodel, rebuild or paint their homes, and do not have the funds with which to do so. He will also be glad to help those who for any reason are unable to maintain the payments on their homes. Any person desiring aid on any of the above matters is asked to get in contact with Mr. Mills at his office.

Application blanks are now on hand for those wishing to borrow money for making house repairs. Telephone inquiries will be gladly answered. The telephone number is Beacon 32866.

HOUSTON CENTERS HOLD OPEN HOUSE

The Bethlehem Settlement, 1216 Erickson, and Douglass Community House (located in old Douglass School building on McGowen Avenue), will hold open house Sunday, October 14, from 4 to 6 p. m.

The Houston public is invited to visit these centers and see the type of work which is being done there.

It is stated that Bethlehem Settlement alone contacted in excess of 1800 persons during Sepember. This institution is supported partly by the Houston Community Chest, and it is planned to secure partial support from the chest for Douglass Settlement.

DALLAS, TEX.
NEWS

AUG 2 1934

They Ask for a Fair Chance

In the "Letters" columns of The Sunday News is a communication from a young negro teacher, who seeks to explain the high crime record of Negroes in Dallas. He lays the blame on housing congestion, insanitary conditions, extreme poverty through unemployment or low wages for work, and especially the lack of adequate education. Given good housing, employment at fair wages and proper educational facilities, he is of the opinion that the crime situation among Negroes would find a solution.

His plea is in full harmony with the housing program of President Roosevelt, who hints that he will recommend to the next Congress social measures looking toward an uplift in living standards for the poorer classes of American citizens. These, he assumes, will be found in city slums and among the poverty-stricken tenant and renter farmers of the country, presumably mostly in the South.

Dallas has its slum centers of that sort, occupied chiefly by Negroes and Mexicans, along with a sprinkling of unemployed Whites. The News has frequently called attention to these neglected centers, but little improvement in conditions has followed. The city might well follow the thought of the President, who urges the experiment of equal justice to all residents. In Dallas insanitary dwellings should be made sanitary or torn down. Realtors might carefully plan a housing program of properly constructed houses of low rental value. Education should be provided to the residents of the poorer sections of Dallas as fully as to the wealthier—an education suited to the needs of those to whom poverty is an ever present evil.

The real reason for this social policy is evident. No chain is stronger than its weakest link. The poor spread their illnesses among those for whom they work. The cost of pauperism and unemployment is felt in contributions made for charity and in the expense of policing, jails and courts. It is real municipal economy to insist on good housing, sanitation, and fair wages for the poor.

The curse of the poor is their poverty, but it is a curse also to the city that permits slum conditions. The President desires to eliminate these demoralizing conditions. Dallas would show wisdom if it should be able to present a clean bill of social health to national investigators of the Federal Government, when they come to study social conditions in Dallas.

Texas Negro Civic League To Meet In Houston

HOUSTON.—The Texas Negro Civic League, which was recently organized in Galveston during the annual session of the Colored Teachers' State Association, with C. F. Richardson, Sr., as president, A. W. Jackson as secretary, and R.R. Grovey as state organizer, will hold its first state-wide meeting since its organization in Houston on January 1 1935, at 10 o'clock a.m. at the I. L. A. Hall, 409 1-2 Smith Street.

One of the important matters to come before the meeting will be the consideration of a constitution and by-laws for the organization.

A large attendance is expected to be present. Everybody who is interested in improving the civic status and lot of the million Negroes of the state is invited.

Texas.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

TEXAS HOUSING SURVEY J-C IS INVESTIGATED

Houston Informer

EAC Vigilance Brings Gov't Probe of CWA Project In Dallas

2-17-34

NEW YORK CITY— (ANP)— Reports continuing to come to the office of the National Urban League and the Emergency Advisory Council of discriminations against Negro citizens by local CWA officials, have led the National Urban League, through T. Arnold Hill, acting executive secretary, to appeal to Harry L. Hopkins, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, to broaden the study of relief administration he is now making to include a searching inquiry into discriminations against Negroes by CWS, CWA and FERA officials.

In response to a sharp protest by the Emergency Advisory Council of Texas and the National Urban League against the exclusion of Negroes from among 125 CWA enumerators employed in a housing survey in Dallas, Texas, Aubrey Williams, assistant administrator of the CWA, has ordered an investigation of the Dallas situation. A similar survey in Richmond, Va., uses no Negroes.

Through the vigilance of 19 city organizations of the EAC in 32 states and the District of Columbia such discrimination against Negroes and the exclusion of them from the benefit of the National Recovery Program are quickly reported to national headquarters and thence to the proper authorities in Washington.

NEGROES AND RELIEF ROLLS

Houston Informer

In voting this week to issue $6,000,000 in so-called "bread bonds" for relief purposes in Texas during the next four or five months, the Texas legislature stressed the fact that relief ought to be provided only for those who are unable to find work, and that those who have jobs offered them and will not work ought to be removed from the relief rolls.

With this doctrine The Defender is somewhat in accord, yet this paper realizes that when it comes to the practical application of this rule, Negroes most likely would be the greatest sufferers particularly when it comes to picking cotton in certain sections of the state where the unwritten law is to give the colored cotton pickers and their families the worst end of the deal.

Houston, Texas

There is an old adage that "beggars can't be choosers," which is tritely true; but many persons found or forced on the relief rolls are not beggars in any sense of the word, and their unfortunate condition is due to the faults of the times and not because of any act of commission or omission on their part.

The Defender made the observation when the dole system was first instituted in this city, state and nation that it would make many of the recipients lazy and indolent, and that they would expect to remain indefinitely on the receiving end of organized charity.

9-29-34

When it comes to Negroes working or being dropped from the relief rolls, The Defender holds to the opinion that every able-bodied member of the race, who is offered a chance to work, whether the work is so agreeable or pleasant or not, should take the proffered job and thus strive to help improve his or her status, as well as that of his family, race and society.

Even during normal and prosperous times persons can not always have everything to their liking, can not always pick their jobs, and when times are hard and tight, as they have been in this country for the past four years, it is absurd, silly and preposterous for any person to sit around and try to select the kind of work he or she wants to do.

While The Defender does not advocate a "work or starve" edict, it holds firmly to the opinion that the relief rolls must be reduced, for the load has already become burdensome to the state and welfare agencies, and with winter approaching and the rainy season reducing outdoor work almost to a minimum, an Amazonic task faces the relief administering agencies and welfare boards.

In other words, every person must cooperate with these agencies and do his or her part to make conditions better and to lighten the heavy load being shouldered and carried by such welfare and relief organizations, both here and elsewhere.

Social Conditions, Improvement of—1934

Virginia

Colored People Will Support New Project

Ministers Disclaim Assertions Naming Them Proponents Of Segregation

Richmond Va.

To Whom It May Concern:

It is known that there is much controversy over the Miller's Field proposition. Richmond Planet

The Negro ministers are charged with lining up with white people who oppose locating Negroes on Miller's Field because these white people approve residential segregation.

The Negro ministers wish it clearly understood that they (the ministers) bitterly oppose segregating Negroes in residences. This ought to be known from the recent fight which the Negro ministers led in defeating the segregation law which the City Council passed. 2-3-34

The Negro ministers sided with Negro real estate men because it was stated that the houses to be erected would be tenant houses, crowded and non-purchaseable by those who were to occupy them.

The motive of the Negro ministers was far different from that of the white people of the North Side.

It is unfortunate, we know, that such people should be connected with the case, thus making it appear that the Negro ministers are assisting them in maintaining residential segregation. The Negro ministers did not have this group of white people in mind when they indorsed the opposition.

The Negro ministers further felt that, since they had fought so hard to prevent residential segregation, no one could reasonably charge them with wanting to defeat a victory which they had helped to gain.

The Negro ministers did what they thought would be best for the Negroes concerned in the final analysis of the matter. If any one at any time has said or done anything to indicate that the Negro ministers of Richmond are in favor of residential segregation, such a one has misrepresented the Negro ministry, especially those who composed the Baptist Ministers' Conference.

In view of the situation, it may be that the Baptist Ministers' Conference will rediscuss the matter. If it shall seem wise to them to withdraw from the picture, they will do so.

We condemn not only the idea of residential segregation, but we regard the phraseology used by the white people of the North Side (as reported in The Richmond Planet of January 27, 1934), as deplorable.

W. L. RANSOME,
J. E. FOUNTAIN,
F. W. BLACK,
C. C. SCOTT,
C. S. McCALL.

LOCAL BRANCH N. A. A. C. P. TO HOLD 25th ANNIVERSARY NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

The Richmond branch of the N. A. A. C. P. will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the national organization at the Sharon Baptist Church on Tuesday, February 13, at 8 P. M. Dr. Howard Thurman, dean of the Howard Theological School, will be the principal speaker. The celebration will be nation-wide in scope and each of the branches in the country has been assigned a quota, the raising of which is necessary to win a place on the national honor roll. An interesting program has been arranged in connection with the address of the principal speaker, who is considered one of the most eminent men in the country.

It is daily growing more apparent that the colored citizens of Richmond are overwhelmingly in favor of the proposition sponsored by the Sunshine Apartment Corporation which will provide 256 four-room modern apartments for colored people over on Miller's Field, near Chamberlayne Avenue. The Federal government gave its final approval to the project this week and has made $600,000 available to finance the erection of this development. These facts were learned this week by a careful investigation by Planet investigators. Richmond 2-3-34

White People Oppose the Plan

The opposition to the erection of these apartments is led by white residents of Ginter Park and Northside Richmond, who claim that the appearance of these colored people in that section would be personally obnoxious to them. They contended that a colored settlement would ruin values in Ginter Park. The strongest argument against the project was advanced by certain colored real estate men and the allegation that the Baptist Ministers' Conference also opposed it. With white neighbors against the erection of these apartments and representatives of Negro groups joining in the opposition, the project appeared doomed last week. But, according to reliable information, the rank and file of the colored population has awakened to the realization of the value of this project to them and are now rallying to the defense of the Sunshine project.

Ministers May Change Attitude

According to a statement issued Monday by the Baptist Ministers' Conference, the matter of endorsing the project will be taken up next Monday, on a motion to reconsider, and it is reliably indicated that the conference is likely to change front; at least it will adopt a "hands-off" policy. Colored citizens representing the large number who are favorable to the propostiion met the Ordinance Committee of Richmond City Council Thursday night and presented their side of the controversy. There is a general expression of regret that the race issue entered into the matter at all.

Sunshine Officials Did Not Raise Race Issue

Officials of the Sunshine Corporation, which plans to build the apartments, told a Planet representative that they had no idea any opposition would develop to this project. They thought that since colored people were already living in Miller's Field, that the selection, after meeting the approval of Federal investigators, would be all right. They admit that influential colored citizens should have been consulted before a final selection was made. It should be stated here that the leading white citizens of the city offered no opposition; on the contrary, their goodwill and interest made the project possible of accomplishment.

Apartments Will Be Modern

Officials of the corporation further stated that these apartments would be of brick construction throughout, with a separate entrance for each apartment, and not a window or door looks into that of a neighbor, thereby insuring privacy.

"The whole landscape out there in Miller's Field will be developed," stated M. Cary Johnston, of the firm of Carneal & Johnston, architects for the development. "This development is the product of far-reaching study of housing for people of low income groups. The sanitation is superb, the advantages of a natural drainage being added to the sewerage facilities provided by the city. The location is convenient to the city, yet isolated from traffic. Rents will be fixed by the Virginia and Federal housing laws and will be based on the actual cost of the apartments."

Will Provide Jobs for Many

The main object of the Federal Housing Administration is to provide jobs for the unemployed, and it is learned from reliable sources that colored skilled and unskilled workers will be employed on the project in large numbers. About six months will be required to complete the construction, and work will begin as soon as City Council clears the way by suitable ordinances and appropriations for public utilities.

RICHMOND, VA.
NEWS LEADER

JAN 30 1934

AN ARGUMENT OF STAGNATION.

More than once in the past, when proposals were made for the improvement of Negro housing, protests have been raised, but never has there been quite the same reaction as that with which some Richmonders have received the announcement of plans for the "Sunshine apartments."

A number of Richmond business men, appreciating the opportunity offered by the public works program, procured options and drew plans for an expensive project. They propose, with government aid, to construct sixty-two houses, each of which will offer four apartments. Every apartment will consist of a combination living-room and dining-room, two bedrooms, kitchen and bath. The rent for each apartment cannot be fixed as yet, but it will be about $17.50 a month. Every room in every house is to have outside light; the arrangement of the houses on a sixteen-acre tract is admirable; a playfield and a field-house are to be provided; in general construction, design and convenience, the houses are to be much better than most Negro families enjoy.

But what reception is given the proposal? Of course, there are the usual protests about location. The site is no nearer Ginter Park than it is Monroe park, and is as far from any thickly-populated white district as old Jackson ward is from Franklin street. But protests as to location are, of course, to be expected. Regardless of site, that would be the case. What amazes many Richmond people is not this part of the complaint, but the bitterness that is being exhibited and the open, undisguised hostility displayed by certain owners of other property. If the men who are undertaking this fine enterprise had proposed to dynamite or to confiscate property now used for Negro housing, they could not have been more aggressively assailed.

Surely some of those who are agitating against the Sunshine project do not see their acts in perspective. If bettter housing can be provided with government finance, must it be declined simply because it may mean that some other property will be vacated? Must we assume as a city that Negro housing is as good as it ever will be, and that it must never be improved lest any betterment work injury to someone else? That is the argument of civil stagnation, an argument against which we hope Richmond will always protest.

RICHMOND, VA.
NEWS LEADER

FEB 2 1934

Negro Housing Project Hanging High; Ordinance Is Again Tabled by Committee

HEAR SPOKESMEN FOR TWO GROUPS

Both Sides to Controversy Line Up Full Strength at Long Session.

The Negro housing project is still hanging high today following a long session of the city council ordinances committee last night, when both sides to the controversy mustered their full strength for the battle over the ordinance that would change the zoning classification of Miller's field to permit construction of the $663 000 project.

With a bare quorum present, the committee tabled the ordinance for the third time but not before the project had been fully discussed by the spokesmen for the various factions. In spite of the rain the council chamber was filled with the largest crowd yet attending any of the discussions of the project.

Opponents of the Sunshine Realty Corporation's project declared they are not opposing the development but the location and said more desirable sites can be found. Robert Bayliss, real estate operator, joined J. D. Harris and Frank Cowardin as spokesman for the Northside element fighting establishment of the project on Miller's field.

Representatives of labor organizations, headed by W. F. Robinson, were present to advocate the project as the one big hope of supplying work for skilled mechanics and laborers on the local horizon. A group of Negroes, headed by Roscoe Mitchell, editor of the Planet, appeared in support of the housing development.

A note of humor relieved the tenseness when Councilman E. Glenn Jordan declared the typewritten program for the advocates of the housing project to follow at the meeting was so well prepared that even the proper places for "applause" were marked on the copy. Speaking for the project and the change in the zoning ordinance were W. Leigh Carneal, J. Ambler Johnston, Allen J. Saville and J. Vaughan Gary, attorney for the housing corporation.

RICHMOND, VA.
TIMES DISPATCH

JAN 31 1934

Opponent Sees New Slum Area In Negro Plan

Stewart, Rapping Sunshine Step, Says 1,000 Houses Already Are Available

Contending that greater benefits to Negro citizens can be obtained through the rehabilitation of certain existing sections of their residential communities than through the construction of a large-scale apartment project with its attendant crowding of families, S. P. B. Stewart, Negro real estate man, yesterday sought to "clarify the position" of a faction of the Negro populace regarding the proposed Sunshine Apartments in a letter addressed to The Times-Dispatch.

The project, proposed to be financed by a half-million dollar appropriation from the housing division of the Public Works Administration, is being fostered by local interests as a "slum clearance" venture. It would be a group of multiple-family apartments located on a tract of land northeast of the Chamberlayne Avenue bridge known as Miller's Field.

Fear Property Drop

Opposition to the plan has already been expressed by a group of Ginter Park citizens who contend that property values on the North Side will be lowered by the proposed "colonization" of Negroes in the locality.

Stewart's communication sets forth at the out-set that "we never have opposed the project itself, but we do oppose certain phases of it and particularly the location."

It is claimed that at least 1,000 houses, "not all of which are shacks," are for rent in the colored sections of the City and that many of them are owned by Negroes. Furthermore, "there are between 25 and 50 good, substantial apartments on Clay Street alone, many with all the improvements that this new proposition will offer." The rental, he says, is generally less than the $5.50 per room proposed for the new building.

Construction of the Sunshine Apartments, the writer continues, will create another slum area rather than eradicating one. Through an array of statistical figures he attempts to show that family congestion on the Miller's Field site will be at the rate of 64,000 persons to the square mile wheeras the average for the City as a whole is 7,629.

Site of Old College

The site of the old Hartshorn College is proposed as a more desirable location than that to the North of Bacon's Quarter Creek and east of Chamberlayne Avenue. It is more centrally located, the writer claims, to other desirable Negro residential sections and to churches and schools.

"If it be felt that the section must be farther out," he continues, "the territory west of Chamberlayne Avenue and directly opposite that already selected will be far better."

Both sides of the street, it is claimed, are being invaded by industrial plants, and it is suggested that they be confined to the eastern side of the thoroughfare while the western side be used for the apartments and other housing.

Government regulations for such housing projects provide that they may be sold to their occupants with a release from the blanket mortgage covering the group. A better scheme than the apartment, it is claimed, is to demolish some of the "shacks" now existing and erect small, modern homes on their sites, with payments to be spread over a long number of years. This plan presents the added advantage of furnishing a greater amount of work for carpenters, brick layers, etc., than does the propject now being considered, Stuart writes.

The communication closes with the hope that, " the project will go speedily forward, but with consideration given to the points brought out here."

RICHMOND, VA.
NEWS LEADER

MAR 20 1934

WORTH DOING, GENTLEMEN.

Prompt approval by the council finance committee of the ordinance to accept and to clear the six Negro cemeteries near the northern abutment of the First-street bridge will do more than remove a jungle that is now an eyesore to all passers-by.

Such action will be a friendly answer on Richmond's part to the bitter challenge of recent racial upstirrings in the Gulf states. There is no substitute for absolute justice as the first rule for the settlement of the differences of class and of race, but kindness makes plainer the need of justice.

In this instance, CWA labor will be available to clean up the cemeteries without cost to the city. No outlay will have to be made for materials. All necessary tools are at hand. The utilities committee has already approved unanimously the ordinance. Like action by the finance committee tonight is almost certain to be acceptable to both branches of council. A proper work can then be undertaken without delay. The cemeteries will not be used for further burials.

A city's spirit shows itself as much in the care of its cemeteries as in almost anything else it does. Where a people remember the dead, they are not apt to neglect the living.

Virginia
6

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1934

The Colored Community And The Chest Fund

Journal and Guide
12-25-34

IN THESE columns the JOURNAL AND GUIDE said last week that "the Community Fund campaigns have always been so conducted that it has been difficult to determine just what the colored people gave." Our statement is supported in an illuminating letter published in our *Open Forum* this week and signed "A Worker." After pointing out some of the industrial gifts sources from which we derive no credit "Worker" goes on to say that "if all these contributions were credited to colored people, it might turn out that they are giving more than they receive." If that is true, the colored community is really giving the "widow's mite" and living up to the highest Christian ideals.

"Worker" also points out that with a case load of about 200, Family Welfare, a white agency, received $10,200, while Colored United Charities, with a case load of more than 400 received for the same period $3,340. The colored people will certainly have to give a great deal more if their destitute families are to fare better at the hands of the Community Fund.

A young French newspaperman visiting in Norfolk this week asked a white friend how the colored people were getting along. "Oh, they are happy," his friend replied. "But some of them seem to be very poor, in fact hungry and ragged," the Frenchman retorted. "Oh well they are happiest when they are that way," sallied his American friend.

The JOURNAL AND GUIDE hopes that is not the real attitude of the white community.

A Strong Social Force

Journal and Guide
12-15-34

THE Negro Organization Society which held its 22d annual meeting at Ashland last week is a strong factor in social welfare in Virginia, especially in the rural sections of the State. Not the least important of its objectives is the improvement of race relations. Its accomplishments in this field are reflected in improved school, farm and health conditions in many sections where the Society's influence has been at work. As an evidence of the cordial relations existing between the Organization Society and the outstanding white religious and educational leaders in the State the closing session of the Ashland meeting was held in the chapel of historic Randolph-Macon College, upon the invitation of President BLACKWELL. At this meeting President JAMES N. HILLMAN, of Emory and Henry College and Dr. SIDNEY B. HALL, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, were among the speakers.

The Negro Organization Society was founded 22 years ago and Dr. ROBERT R. MOTON, who was at that time an important factor in the administration of Hampton Institute was its first president. His successor was Major ALLEN WASHINGTON, also of the Hampton family, and upon his death the Rev. MARION E. DAVIS of Portsmouth became president. Dr. DAVIS is still carrying on. Associated with him are such outstanding men as Principal J. ALVIN RUSSELL, of St. Paul's School, Lawrenceville; Dr. JOHN M. GANDY, president of Virginia State College; WILLIAM M. COOPER, director of the Extension Department of Hampton Institute; Dr. MORGAN E. NORRIS, of Kilmarnock; W. B. LAYTON, Superintendent of the Virginia Manual Training School for Boys; Lawyer THOMAS C. WALKER, of Gloucester, JAMES A. OLIVER, Field Secretary, and numerous other citizens prominent in various walks of life throughout the State. The Society's slogan is "Better Homes, Better Health, Better Farms, Better Schools." This year the theme of the annual meeting was "Save and Advance.

It is not often that the program committee of the Society has been unfortunate in the choice of speakers. Its intent and purpose was betrayed this year in the course of an address by Miss MARY I. MASTIN, Director of Public Health Nursing, during the program of the health section of the meeting. Miss MASTIN struck the only discordant note of the meeting when she advanced the proposition that the differential of $50 per month in the pay of white and colored Public Health Nurses is justified. When a State employee comes into a public meeting and boldly asserts and defends this sort of pernicious discrimination such an attache of State service does serious injury to the whole cause. Miss MASTIN certainly misjudged the intelligence of her audience and displayed a rare naivete in her evident determination to make of an indefensible practice a sound philosophy. A difference in pay, on racial lines, may be supported candidly upon political grounds, or as a political policy, but there is nothing in such a policy to sustain a disparity of 75 to 125. Certainly there is nothing in the economics of social welfare to justify such a wide disparity. The Negro Public Health Nurse has to travel over a wide area, has to eat and wear clothes. Whether she travels in her own car, or on a train or bus, she pays the same fare that any other person pays. She is allowed no reductions in the prices of gas and food and clothing on account of color. Her insurance rates are higher, on account of color. If she reads any books or periodicals she pays the same price that anybody else pays for them.

The people who enforce this discrimination against our public health servants, teachers and other employees in the public service should abandon the economic argument for something more tenable.

DISPATCH
Richmond, Va.
NOV 25 1934

The Housing Project

RICHMOND cannot afford to allow the Federal Government's proffer of cooperation on a large slum clearance project in Jackson Ward, to go unheeded. This important movement for better housing in one of the most congested and unhealthful areas of the city, deserves the support of all interested parties.

That is particularly true of the property owners whose shacks and lots the Federal Government wishes to purchase. If these persons will dispose of their realty at a figure which the authorities at Washington conceive to be reasonable, those authorities will see that the housing project is made a reality. But if there is an effort to gouge the Government, the whole scheme will be abandoned.

It is up to the property owners, therefore, to be equitable in their demands. In pursuing such a policy, they will be acting in their own interests, as well as in that of the community as a whole.

Viewed in its larger aspects, the slum clearance project undoubtedly offers solid benefits to Richmond. It will improve living conditions and property values in the area in question, it will result in the obliteration of five or six blocks of unsightly and unsanitary dwellings, it will afford employment to perhaps 1,000 men, and it will create a substantial demand for locally manufactured building materials.

It is not anticipated that all of the Negro families now living in the area can be accommodated in the new apartments and homes to be erected there. Congestion is so great under present circumstances that perhaps 40 per cent will have to find quarters elsewhere after the new structures are completed. Thus the present property owners will receive an adequate price for their present holdings, and at the same time many empty houses and apartments will be filled from the overflow.

There is also, of course, the improvement in the general health and morale of the community. Small, badly ventilated one or two-room hovels are ideal hatching places for vice, crime and disease. There will still be some of them left in Richmond after these modern dwellings are erected, but the number will have been substantially reduced.

This country is not as advanced in the field of housing as some European countries. We can learn much from certain housing schemes carried out on the Continent, particularly those of Vienna.

In the Austrian capital, the Socialist government erected scores of enormous apartment houses before it was forcibly wrecked by DOLLFUSS less than a year ago. But if the government is gone, the apartments remain, and they are models of their kind. They have been nothing less than a godsend to the laboring people of Vienna. Whereas the death rate from tuberculosis in the city before the World War was 30 per 10,000, by 1932 it had been reduced to 18 per 10,000, despite all the horrible sufferings of the poorer classes in the postwar years.

What Vienna has done, Richmond can do on a smaller scale. The slum clearance project deserves the support of the city as a whole. We are sure that the property owners concerned will co-operate in bringing it to a successful conclusion.

NORFOLK, VA.
VIRGINIAN PILOT
NOV 30 1934

Tom Walker

From the Danville Register.

One of the advantages of interracial conferences like that held at Reidsville on Friday in which the North Carolina and Virginia Commissions on Interracial Co-operation discussed their common problems is that it gives members of the white race an opportunity to meet Negro leaders like Tom Walker of Gloucester. As official adviser to the Virginia Emergency Relief Administration on problems of Negro Welfare, Thomas C. Walker has made a signal contribution to Negro relief work in Virginia in general but his particular contribution has been made in Gloucester County in many years of successful work. He must be getting along in years, this Negro lawyer who has made the uplift of the Negro in his own community his life's work, for his hair is as white as snow. But he is still young enough to fill every conference he attends with his own enthusiasm for the work he is doing and with admiration for his eloquence and his inimitable humor.

Can his record be equaled anywhere in the United States? Of a population of 7,000 Negroes in Gloucester County only seven are on the relief rolls. Ninety per cent of the Negro farmers own the land on which they farm. It may be a small farm, but it is their own. From Tom Walker they have heard the gospel of saving and industry. This representative of the finest Negro stock of old Virginia has deprived himself of the lucrative income that would have been his as a gifted lawyer by his missionary work among his own people, for there is practically no crime at all among the Negroes of his county. No doubt he has been abundantly compensated materially by his success as a business man and a farmer. But his larger compensation has been

found in the spiritual life he has lived among his own people and as their counsel at the court of forbearance and fair dealing before which he can now plead.

Does it pay to educate the Negro? Has it paid the county of Gloucester and Virginia to educate Tom Walker? The business books of the county show whether it has paid by the standard of responsible citizenship. He has not only helped his own people up from poverty, but he has ameliorated that feeling of poverty white people have when they contemplate the execution of their trust to the Negro race.

Social Conditions, Improvement of — 1934

West Virginia

Social Service Meet Held at W. Va. State

Afro-American
8-4-34
Baltimore, Md.

CHARLESTON, W.Va.—Forrester Washington, director of the Atlanta School of Social Work, now directing the training of social workers throughout the country and Dr. Robert C. Weaver, associate advisor on the economic status of colored people for the Department of Interior, were among the social work specialists present at the Social Service Conference held at West Virginia State College, July 23-25.

With "The Teacher as a Non-Professional Social Worker in the Community" as its theme, the conference aimed to study ways whereby public school teachers might cooperate with local, state and Federal agencies in social and relief work and initiate such work in local communities. Professor Thomas E. Posey, of the department of economics, was chairman of the conference committee.

"The Program of the FERA" was the subject discussed by Forrester B. Washington at the Monday morning session while Harry W. Green, professor of education, West Virginia State College, spoke on "The New Teacher as a Social Worker." Other lectures concerning the teacher in social work were presented later by leaders in these two fields.

It was pointed out in the conference that the most serious problem of the teachers was the lack of facilities for handling executive social work. They were urged to inform themselves concerning the relief and work program policy of the Federal government.